Illustrated Midland News.

SWAIN SC.

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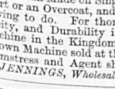

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PROCLAMATION OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

The Emperor of the French has addressed the following proclamation to the nation:

The Constitution of 1852, drawn up by virtue of the power you entrusted to me, and ratified by the eight millions of votes which re-established the Empire, has given to France eighteen years of calm and prosperity not unattended with glory. This Constitution has secured order, and has at the same time left a way open for every improvement. And, indeed, the more security has been consolidated the larger has been the share accorded to liberty. But successive changes have altered the bases of the plébiscite, which could not be modified without a fresh appeal to the nation. It became, therefore, indispensable that the new constitutional pact should be approved by the people, as were formerly the Constitutions of the Republic and of the Empire. In those two epochs the belief was, as is my own belief at the present time, that everything done without you is illegitimate. The Constitution of France, Imperial and Democratic, when confined to a limited number of fundamental regulations which cannot be changed without your assent, will have the advantage of rendering definitive the progress that has been accomplished, and of shielding the principle of government from political fluctuations. Time too often lost in fruitless and passionate controversies may henceforth be more advantageously employed in seeking the means of increasing the moral and material well-being of the greatest number. I speak to all of you who, since the 10th of December, 1848, have surmounted every obstacle in order to place me at your head: to you who for twenty-two years have incessantly added to my greatness by your votes, supported me by your co-operation, and rewarded me by your affection. Give me another proof of your confidence! By balloting affirmatively you will conjure down the threats of revolution, you will seat order and liberty on a solid basis, and you will render easier for the future the transmission of the Crown to my son.

Eighteen years ago you were almost unanimous in conferring the most extensive powers upon me. Be now, too, as numerous in giving your adhesion to the transformation of the Imperial régime.

A great nation cannot attain to its complete development without leaning for support upon institutions which are a guarantee both for stability and progress.

To the request which I address to you to ratify the liberal reforms that have been realised during the last ten years, answer "Yes!"

As to myself, faithful to my origin, I shall imbue myself with your thoughts, fortify myself in your will, and, trusting to Providence, I shall not cease to labour without intermission for the prosperity and greatness of France.

April 4, 1870. NAPOLEON.

MURDERED BY BRIGANDS.

Intelligence arrived on Monday of the barbarous murder by Greek brigands of four gentlemen, who had been taken captive whilst on a visit to the famous battle-field of Marathon. The substance of the following particulars is derived from a letter written by Lord Muncaster:

"On Saturday, the 9th of April, Lord Muncaster, who, with Lady Muncaster and a friend, Mr. Frederick Vyner, a younger brother of Lady de Grey and Ripon, was travelling in the East, applied, through the British Legation at Athens, for information as to the safety of visiting the plains of Marathon, and if an escort was necessary and could be furnished to enable them to do so.

"The reply was to the effect that the road was safe; that there were no brigands in Attica, but that an escort would be provided. Accordingly, on Monday, the 11th of April, at 6.30 a.m., the party consisting of Lord and Lady Muncaster, Mr. F. Vyner, Mr. Herbert, one of the Secretaries to her Majesty's Legation, Count de Boyl, Secretary to the Italian Legation, and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd, with their young child, five years of age, left Athens in two carriages under the escort of four mounted gendarmes for Marathon, accompanied by a Sulíote named Alexandros, the most experienced and intelligent dragoman in Greece.

"On traversing the plain, they found a small detachment of six infantry soldiers, and afterwards a larger one of twenty-five, apparently patrolling the road. After exploring the scene of one of the most interesting events in history, they started to return to Athens. The detachment of twenty-five men appears to have endeavoured to keep company with them, but was unable to do so, and they again passed the smaller party of six men, who succeeded in keeping tolerably close in their rear.

At 4-30 p.m., entering a thickly-wooded part of the road near the bridge of Pikerneas, two mounted gendarmes riding one on either side of the carriages, and two in front, a volley was suddenly fired into them, killing one of the gendarmes, and mortally wounding another. The road was immediately filled with brigands, who forced the occupants out of the carriages, using much violence, striking, though not severely, Lady Muncaster, and tearing off her watch and lockets, and menacing with knives the lives of all. They hurried their captives up the side of Mount Pentelicus, but had scarcely got fifty yards from the road when the six infantry soldiers came up and at once commenced firing into the brigands, who returned the fire.

The soldiers, finding themselves overmatched (the brigands being upwards of twenty in number), happily discontinued the engagement, which would have been probably fatal to the captives, who were collected in a body in their midst.

"The brigands then hurried their prisoners up the slopes of Pentelicus, and after two hours' walking they put the ladies on the horses of the dismounted gendarmes, and, with one servant, let them go to Athens.

"After the ladies had gone the five gentlemen and Alexandros were compelled to walk with them up and down wooded ravines, sometimes resting for half an hour, till about 2 a.m. on Tuesday, the 12th of April, when they stopped in a dry watercourse to kill and roast three lambs, making their captives sit round the fire, and pressing upon them the insides of the animals. Weariness and depression of spirits had deprived them of appetite, even if the food had been more attractive, and they partook of nothing except some black bread and water, which was all the nourishment they had for upwards of 48 (?) hours.

"Resuming their march, they halted again about daybreak, and all Tuesday lay under some bushes; luckily it was fine, so they did not suffer much. During that day they consulted as to what was to be done, and it was agreed to ask for one of their number to be allowed to go to Athens to arrange for payment of the ransom they demanded, and an amnesty. After several hours' talk between Alexandros and the captain of the band, the terms of ransom were settled so far as that the captain of the brigands reduced the enormous sum demanded of £50,000, to the still enormous and extravagant sum of £25,000. He would not, however, suffer any further discussion, but, growing impatient, said emphatically, 'Finish quickly.' The captives then arranged that Lord Muncaster should be the person to go in and make the arrangements necessary for his own and companions' release—a promise being exacted by the brigands that, failing in his mission, he was to return, and that the lives of the others depended on his success. They promised to let Lord Muncaster go that night, but did not do so, as they could get no guide, and none of the brigands dared to be seen with one of their captives.

"On Tuesday, throughout the night, they walked over boggy plains, and up and down hills, wet through from heavy rain, in which they lay down for three hours, till six in the morning, when they started again, and then stopped for the day in a ravine, where a shepherd was found and a small cart obtained in which Lord Muncaster proceeded to Athens.

"He of course made immediate arrangements for sending food and clothing to his unfortunate friends, and for obtaining the money, which was promptly and generously placed at his disposal by a merchant in Athens. The only difficulty lay in the transport of so large a sum in gold."

Besides the ransom, the brigands demanded free and unconditional pardon. This the Greek government refused to give, and the dreadful result was the murder by the brigands of the four captives.

Mr. E. H. C. Herbert, one of the victims of the brigands, was British diplomatic secretary at Athens, having received his appointment in November, 1868.

Mr. Vyner was a grandson of the late Earl de Grey, and younger brother of the present Countess de Grey and Ripon. He was the son of Captain and Lady Mary Vyner, and was exceedingly popular in Yorkshire, where his death will be universally mourned.

Lord Muncaster, who has happily escaped, is a baron to the peerage of Ireland (created 1783), and a baronet of Great Britain.

It is due to the memory of the victims of this dreadful tragedy—Englishmen who have been murdered in a foreign country—that the following points should be clearly understood:—

1. That the expedition to Marathon was undertaken with the full knowledge and consent of the Greek Government, under the formal protection of an escort, and even, as there is reason to believe, with the assurance that such protection was unnecessary.

2. That the capture of the whole party occurred within a very few miles of Athens, and that when it had so occurred the means of ransom to the last farthing were immediately forthcoming without reference to the Greek Government.

3. That the Greek Government were distinctly warned that any employment of force against the brigands would be followed by the massacre of the prisoners; and that they gave a solemn promise, which was communicated to the brigands, that they should not be molested.

4. That, false to this promise, the Greek Government did send, or allow to be sent, troops who surrounded the brigands and thus deliberately provoked the massacre.

5. We know that an amnesty was a vital point with the brigands, and would have saved the prisoners. The Greek Government refused this, on apparently frivolous grounds; but, assuming that their objection to it was reasonable, it was, at least, a matter for further consideration. By attacking the brigands the Greek Government destroyed all chance of success, and are thus now wholly and solely accountable to the English people.

SHEFFIELD FACTORIES.

The Reports of Inspectors of Factories for the year 1869 have just been published. Of Sheffield Mr. Inspector Gould reports as follows:—"Of the towns governed by a corporate body or local board in the Sheffield sub-division, the only one in which the carrying out of the Workshops Act would seem to present any difficulty is Sheffield." Mr. Gould then says that in the other seven towns the authorities showed him the greatest courtesy and expressed themselves willing to carry out his instructions. He adds—

"With respect to Sheffield, I am sorry to be compelled to report a totally different feeling on the part of the local authorities. From interviews I have on various occasions held with these gentlemen (commencing in January, 1868), and reported to you, as well as from your personal experience of their views, you are aware that a disinclination, in the first instance, to act, has been followed by a distinct refusal to move in the matter at all. The real reasons for such refusal are very palpable, but are entirely beside the purpose of this report. The alleged reasons are, (1) the inefficacy of the Act to compel them to carry it out; and, (2) that superior powers are conveyed to the Inspectors of Factories, who, says the chairman of the Board, 'are the individuals intended to put the Act in force, and paid for that special purpose.' The result is, that since the local authorities repudiate their responsibility, nothing has been done in Sheffield to diminish the immense amount of discontent arising from the inequality of the privileges accorded respectively to those who work in factories and workshops. In Sheffield alone, exclusive of the villages referred to above, where a large amount of work incident to the staple trades of the district is carried on, there are, roughly, about 2,500 workshops, in which are employed variously from 49 down to two or three hands; and from the total absence of supervision on the part of the local authorities, and the consequent facilities afforded for employing young hands, and working them any hours, the occupiers of these workshops are enabled to compete at a very great advantage with the occupiers of the factories. The difference is most severely felt in the silver-plating, electro, and Britannia metal works.

"I have in a former report to you strongly recommended that some special trades, at present exclusively carried on in 'workshops,' should be included among those subject to the provisions of the Factory Acts; such as wood turning, horn, bone, ivory cutting, &c., because they are principally carried on in buildings the greater part of which are devoted to trades already under the Factory Acts, and are intimately connected with such trades. Therefore, by doing away with the contrast at present existing in the treatment of the two cases, the thorough working of the Factory Acts will be greatly facilitated; but whether you endorse my recommendation or not, it will be utterly impossible to carry out the Factory Acts in Sheffield satisfactorily, unless either the local authorities are compelled to carry out in their entirety the provisions of the 'Workshops Act,' or a completely new arrangement be made.

"I beg, then, most distinctly to state:—

"(1.) That no reason can be alleged by the local authorities of Sheffield for declining to bring the Act in question into operation which cannot be urged with equal or even greater force by the local authorities where the Act is in full vigour.

"(2.) That the character of the Sheffield trades generally would render such local supervision, if possible, more efficacious than in most other places.

"(3.) That the utility of the Factory Acts, as regards Sheffield, is greatly impaired, and administration neutralised, by the present state of affairs, and by the attitude of antagonism assumed by the local authorities.

"I may be permitted to offer a suggestion as to the means by which, in my opinion, the difficulties or objections to carrying out the 'Workshops' Act might be overcome, as the objects of both the 'Factory' and 'Workshops' Acts are practically the same. And as the trades which are carried on in establishments under the latter are frequently identical with or closely allied to those which are frequently carried on in 'factories' it seems to me that a Government supervision would be highly desirable in both cases. For instance, a jobbing cutler, who employs, say, his wife and one boy would surely require less looking after than a scissor manufacturer, boot and shoe maker, or comb manufacturer, who employs, say, 20 to 40 girls and women, yet, there being steam power used in the first case for perhaps an hour a day, the cutler is under the 'Factory' Acts, the latter under the "Workshops.' I would suggest that the superintendence of both Acts be under the Inspectors of Factories."

WORCESTERSHIRE CRICKET CLUB.

We have received the fixtures of matches to be played by the Worcestershire Club this season, and are glad to see that there are indications of a revival of the sport in that part of the Midlands.

The fixtures are as follows:—May 2nd and 3rd, at Worcester; *v.* Eleven Professional Colts of the Midland Counties.

May 19th, at Worcester; *v.* Bromsgrove School.

June 6th, at Worcester; *v.* Malvern College.

June 16th (?), at Worcester; *v.* Burton-on-Trent.

June 27th, 28th, and 29th, at Worcester; Twenty-two Gentlemen of Worcestershire, with two Bowlers, *v.* United North of England Eleven.

July 6th and 7th, at Brecon; *v.* Breconshire.

July 13th and 14th, at Shrewsbury; *v.* Shropshire.

July 20th, at Malvern; *v.* Malvern College (return).

July 28th and 29th, at Worcester; *v.* Herefordshire.

August 4th, at Bromsgrove; *v.* Bromsgrove School (return).

August 10th and 11th, at Worcester; *v.* Breconshire (return).

August 29th and 30th, at Hereford; *v.* Herefordshire (return).

The opening match, on Monday and Tuesday next, will be interesting.

The Eleven Gentlemen are the Earl of Coventry, Captain Decie, H. Foster, Esq., L. Estridge, Esq., Major Clowes, F. Nicolls, Esq., T. Cox, Esq., G. H. Allsopp, Esq., W. Caldicott, Esq., J. Raybould, Esq., and W. S. Coucher, Esq.

The Eleven Colts are Martin, Nottinghamshire; Clements, Nottinghamshire; Chance, Worcestershire; Clapp, Derbyshire; Millward, Worcestershire; Osman, Derbyshire; Tranter, Staffordshire; Thompson, Wiltshire; Campbell, Worcestershire; Saxton, Derbyshire; and Holdcroft, Staffordshire.

The Worcestershire Militia Band will play during the match. Mr. Millward, the Club's professional, has got the ground in first-rate order.

BIRTHS.

GLOVER.—On the 23rd inst., the wife of Mr. William Glover, factor, of Wolverhampton, of a daughter.

LISTER.—On the 22nd inst., at Armitage Hill, Mrs. Villiers Lister, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

JEBB—MADDOCKS.—On the 21st inst., at Newtown, Wem, by the Rev. Joseph Dobell, of Mickleover, Derby, brother-in-law of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Thomas Crossfield, vicar of Newtown, George Robert Jebb, Esq., Chester, to Marianne, elder daughter of the late Thomas Maddocks, Esq., of the Woodlands, Shropshire.

BELCHER—STUBBS.—On the 21st inst., at Baschurch, near Stafford, by the Rev. H. A. Fuller, M.A., Mr. William Belcher, grocer, Newport, Salop, son of Mr. James Belcher, Moreton-park, to Harriett, eldest daughter of Mr. William Stubbs, Rickerscote, near Stafford.

MOLYNEUX—LAWLEY.—On the 21st inst., at Escrick Church, York, by the Hon. and Rev. Stephen Lawley, the Hon. Caryl Craven Molyneux, Captain 10th Hussars, second son of the late Earl of Sefton, to the Hon. Caroline Elizabeth Lawley, eldest daughter of the Lord Wenlock.

DEATHS.

SMITH.—On the 24th inst., of convulsions, Mary Ann, the only and beloved child of John and Mary Smith, Stafford-street, Wolverhampton, aged 10 months.

COX.—On the 24th inst., William Cox, of Standeford Cottage, Wolverhampton, aged 75.

GRIFFITHS.—On the 22nd inst., very suddenly, Sarah, the beloved wife of Thomas Griffiths, and eldest daughter of the late Robert Rhodes, of Bradley, near Bilston, aged 37.

CHILD.—On the 16th inst., at Bayreuth, Bavaria, James G. Child, M.A., of Magdalen College, Cambridge.

COXWELL.—On the 10th inst., John Coxwell, son of the late Mr. John Coxwell, of Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire, aged 71.

HAVERGAL.—On the 19th inst., at Leamington, the Rev. W. H. Havergal, M.A., vicar of Shareshill, and Hon. Canon of Worcester.

HORTON.—On the 20th inst., at Much Wenlock, John Horton, formerly of Finsbury-pavement.

WHATELY.—On the 21st inst., at South Kilworth, Leicestershire, Isabella S., widow of the late Rev. T. Whately, aged 84.

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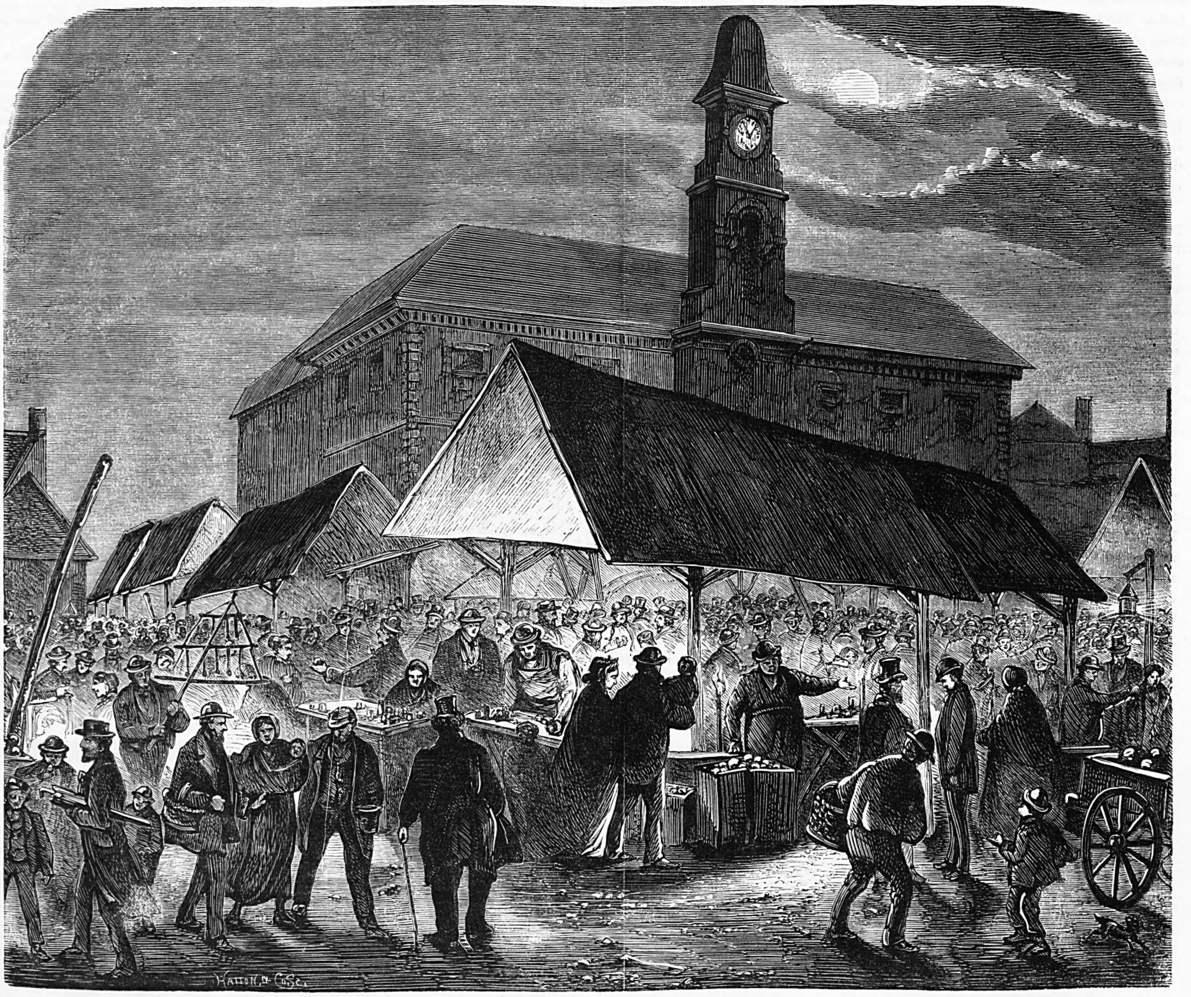
TARDY SPRING.

Bishop Berkeley said there was no matter, and **Byron** declared that it was no matter what he said. Therein the poet was, for the moment, an apostle of **Reid** the Scotchman; but only for a moment, because within the covers of the thick octavo that **Murray** issued after **Byron's** death are thoughts and suggestions almost without number that do not run on all fours with the famous doctrine of "Common Sense." **Hume** insists that there is no causation, but only succession. **Reid** confronts **Berkeley** and assures us that matter exists, and we cannot help believing it; he confronts **Hume** and avers that there is causation in the very order of succession, and that the mind has no choice but to perceive it, albeit the fact may not be capable of proof. Then a quiet old metaphysician named **Bailey** puts in a word, insisting that we are not absolutely sure that day will follow night, or that our next footstep will be made upon firm earth, however hard the pavement may look. Whither does all this playing with grizzly abstractions tend? Just to this very seasonable point, that there have been moments in this month of April when to those afflicted with meta-



SKETCHES IN THE MIDLANDS BY DAYLIGHT AND GASLIGHT.—LEICESTER MARKET. *(See page 566.)*

physical minds a blow has been struck at Reid's philosophy. There is nothing like a very long winter and a very late Spring to render shaky the foothold of the speculative man who in his despair has taken refage in the dogma of Common Sense. To the purely practical reader no question must be addressed on this point; but an appeal may be made to him who allows his thoughts to travel sometimes in the realms of abstract theory, and him we ask, Has it not occurred to you, in the hard-bound days that have followed this year upon the months which in the calendar belong to winter, to become possessed of a horrible doubt as to whether Spring would ever return at all in the year 1870? Can it be denied that the eccentricities of the season have strained the faith of a good many of us who are as yet permitted to remain at large? What if the flowers would not come up? What if the buds refused to swell, and the leaves remained in embryo, never to be green, and the gooseberries and the apples refused to issu[illegible] forth from the dead, black wintry wo[illegible] more? Who could give us ass[illegible]d any the daisies would ever again [illegible]rance that since they slumbered [illegible] open their eyes, length it were dea[illegible] so soundly, as if at overtaken the[illegible]n and not sleep that had The alm[illegible]? The dates were not wrong. us, [illegible]nac could hardly have misled all of

Last year the forests of old England were vivid emerald in the first week of April; this year they seemed absolutely to have forgotten all about it. They looked like faggots. They suggested despondency. One could not see that the sap was living in the branches. The sun shone, but it did not seem to put any warmth into the decrepid limbs. The hedges were sticks. Out of all these phenomena of early April was it wonderful that, visible to some minds, a phantom should come forth and mock at the philosophy of experience, and suggest for a moment that the hope, upon which we had lived through so many months, of seeing the dear old earth smile under the sun once again, was not sufficiently well-founded?

The nightmare is gone. Once again experience justifies herself. "Common Sense" resumes its complacent attitude. Here is the Spring, late but sure. So welcome is she—so much the more welcome in that she seemed to halt on her way—that we have no heart to chide her upon the tardiness of her advent. Blossoms are bursting out of the dry sticks. Apples, invisible, intangible, undiscoverable by the chemist or vegetable physiologist, are somewhere in the blossoms waiting their turn to appear. The daisies, deep and protracted as was their slumber, are wide awake now. The world of growth and fruitfulness is wondrously busy. The succession of the Seasons is not yet over. Let us hope they will not hurry themselves now. We are all too glad at the first coming of the green leaves and flowers to believe that Spring can be brief, or that Summer will follow soon and run quickly on to its end; and so in our hope as in our despondency we do not give full credit to the lesson of experience or the plain precepts of Mr. Reid's Common Sense.

Fatal Boat Accident.—A skiff has been upset in Shetland, while being rowed to the North Isles steamer. Three men who were on board were thrown into the sea. Two of them immediately sank and were drowned. The other was recovered in an exhausted condition. One of those drowned was Mr. Morrison, agent for Messrs. Blackie, publishers, of Glasgow.

The Storm on the West Coast.—Additional details of the severe storm in the North Channel have come to hand. The vessel which sank in the Firth of Clyde, off the Cumbrae Heads, on Friday, was the Alexander Turner, bound from Brodick for Glasgow, with sand. The master, Colin Turner, and his father-in-law perished, but the third and only other member of the crew managed to keep himself afloat until he was rescued. The German barque Odin, 398 tons, Captain Andrews, arrived off Greenock on Monday, partially dismasted, and with one of her crew killed, another seriously hurt, and three or four more or less injured, through the effects of Friday's gale. On Monday the weather had moderated.

SKETCHES IN THE MIDLANDS

BY

DAYLIGHT AND GASLIGHT.

No. V.—Leicester Market.

With the reader's permission we are going to inspect a Midland market. And what, on this glorious April morning, can be a more agreeable sight than a large square covered with booths, stalls, and standings, laden with the multifarious array of articles that make up an English market? You may object that the scene which we are about to view is not so exhilarating, nor half as lovely, as Covent Garden, with its massive stone buildings, its colonnades, and the famous supper-rooms on one side of the Square. If you are a travelle[illegible], and have visited Paris, you may disparag[illegible]e this Midland market to which we are b[illegible]eing, and vaunt the superiority of the Cent[illegible]ral Halles over any market in perfidious Al[illegible]sion. You may (to take a leap across the C[illegible]hannel, and bring our illustrations nearer [illegible] home) favourably compare the markets of [illegible] even dista[illegible] Birmingham, Worcester, Bristol, about [illegible]at Exeter, with that one which is o[illegible] to be described; but "comparisons are [illegible]ous," and if they were not, I should not listen to a word of disparagement of Leicester Market.

It is one of the sights of the Midlands, this market in the manufacturing town, for few places can boast a larger one. There is Northampton, to be sure, which I believe is on a much larger scale; but for a picturesque scene give me Leicester market on a fine moonlight Saturday night, the moon gleaming over the vast Square, the stars twinkling in the blue heavens, and the place all aglare with the light of a thousand naphtha lamps. The air is filled with the cries of the salesmen and saleswomen, vending potatoes, cabbages, turnips; stockings, boots, shoes, laces; beef, mutton, veal, pork, and bacon; cod-fish, soles, oysters, crabs, shrimps, periwinkles, cockles, and mussels; oranges, apples, and nuts; books of all sorts; earthenware, furniture, saddlery, flowers (when there are any; and the Leicester folk are very partial to cowslips and the other modest Spring-flowers), &c.—yes, *et cetera!* Accommodating phrase, meaning so much, but occupying so little space! It is worthy of an ode! Why not? Mr. Shirley Brooks, you will remember—you, that is, who read *Punch*, and that is everybody—has, in his own peculiarly graceful way, sung the praises of "the amperzand," and I should like to see the same facile pen discourse on the magic power of "&c."

Just as, "if you would see fair Melrose aright," you ought to "visit it by the pale moonlight," so you should time your inspection of Leicester market by the age of the moon; for it is only when Luna is at her full that the old Market-place is to the close observer a very ground of enchantment. In imagination, standing at a corner of the Square, you may see half the poorer population of Leicester eat their Sunday dinner of roast shoulder, with potatoes baked under the succulent joint, and greens to impart a flavour to the whole. In five minutes you shall see more meat and vegetables sold, and stowed away in mysterious baskets, and still more mysterious pockets, than would appease the appetite of that famous Midland Giant Blunderbore, or he of Eppstein in Hessian Switzerland, whom the valiant knight Eppo and his myrmidons so cunningly entrapped. Vegetables, i' faith, the market is full of them. You dodge round a grove of cabbages and other "green stuff" to find yourself in a forest of onions and celery. Escaping these perils, more dangers environ you. Unless you are preternaturally sharp—as I need not tell you most Midlanders are—you will probably be taken captive by some loud-voiced fishmonger (is it a libel upon the trade to say that they all have small eyes!), who cajoles you into buying two or three pounds of fish that you don't want; or momentarily taken into custody by some robust vendor of fruit or butter, who never lets you out of his sight until your arms are full of paper bags and your pockets emptied of all the small change with which you provided yourself. Such a jabbering do these market people keep up that to say you cannot hear yourself speak is a very mild way of putting it. It requires the exercise of the greatest skill to pilot oneself through tho sea of canvas booths which crowd the market-place; the glaring naphtha half blinds you; and you thank your good luck when you have escaped from the bawling crowd to one of the less frequented avenues inside the market buildings.

But here again you are dazed by the never-ceasing "buy, buy, buy!" of the stall-keepers, who, if they are not as numerous, are at least as noisy, as their out-door rivals. Stout women, with plethoric baskets, jostle you within an inch of your life; sturdy mechanics, with a child in one arm, and a mighty "frail" in the other, the "missus" following in their wake, hem you in; red-faced country people, loud of voice, slow of locomotion, and hesitating of manner, surround you; you would be tripped up over and over again by reckless street Arabs were there space enough for you to fall; and the sea of humanity flows on and on until midnight, when the ebb comes, and the lights are put out one by one, the stall-keepers pack up such of their wares as are not sold, the policemen go home to bed, and the market-place is gradually deserted by all save perhaps some tipsy reveller reeling home in the early morning, or some forlorn cur, whom fortune has bereft of both master and kennel.

Many of the stall-holders at Leicester Market come in regularly from the neighbouring [illegible], and distant villages, but the majority are residents in the town. The corn-market is held in the upper room of the market-house, which is approached by a flight of steps, from the outside. Before this building was erected, the corn-market was held on the south side of the square, which is now devoted to the sale of vegetables and fruit. Part of it is let out in fixed standings to weekly tenants, the wholesale dealers being accommodated close by. The latter pay according to the number of hampers or baskets they bring on the ground. Since the opening of the Corn Exchange, the number of market-people has so largely increased that in the summer months there is an inconvenient crowding, and many applications for standings cannot be granted. The butter and poultry market is held in the lower room of the market-house, the fish-market in a space in the south-west corner out-of-doors, where the stalls fetch a large rent. The butchers are massed together in several rows of stalls running along the north-side of the market, other parts being occupied by hosiery, provisions, boots and shoes, earthenware, furniture, saddlery, and other articles. In the summer the villagers flock to the market with baskets of fruit, blackberries, mushrooms, and flowers. These humble vendors pay the small amount demanded of them for the privilege of exhibiting their wares to Mr. H. Waddington, assistant toll-collector; the larger sellers, who only settle up once a quarter, pay their rent to the clerk of the market, Mr. S. Padmore.

LITERATURE.

The Public Life of W. F. Wallett, the Queen's Jester. An Autobiography. Edited by John Luntley. London: Bemrose and Sons; T. H. Lacey, 89, Strand; and J. Menzies, Edinburgh.

"Let me play the fool," said Wallett in his earlier days, and never was he satisfied until he had shown himself in the motley coat of a circus clown. For more than thirty years he has been a favourite throughout England, and has met with success in foreign lands—now he lives, we believe, a retired life at Beeston, Notts. We have before us, in the shape of a pretty book, his professional experience and travels for the past forty years, written by himself. According to the title-page it is edited by John Luntley, but we are somewhat incredulous on that point. We are tempted to speak of John Luntley as Betsey Prig did of Mrs. Harris—"we don't believe there's no sich a person." We think Mr. Wallett is his own editor, and under this convenient disguise has blown his own trumpet rather more loudly than he would have cared to do as the Queen's Jester. The preface commences in this egotistical manner:—

> "Walk up, ladies and gentlemen, and see Wallett, the Queen's jester, the Shakesperian jester—Wallett the scene painter and modelatori—Wallett the posturer—Wallett the manager—Wallet slaying giants and feeding children—Wallett bottling other clowns and putting down the press—Wallett the poet—Wallett the traveller in England, in Ireland, in Scotland, in America, in California, in Mexico, in the West Indies—Wallett writing himself down what he is!"

A long time ago circus clowns gained great reputation, but now good clowns are passing away altogether, and we know of no one who will be able to take Wallett's place, although J. Paston is one of the best clowns now travelling. The task of the equestrian fool now-a-days lies not so much in saying things witty and original, which for the most part he is incapable of, but in turning head over heels; sometimes he will try to make you laugh, but he makes a most miserable ass of himself, and you pity the poor fellow. It was not so with Wallett—he could make you laugh whether you would or no; and his jokes turned on incidents that had happened during the performance—whatever went on amongst the audience, for instance, was nearly always made use of by him. The writer of this notice remembers Wallett playing a joke at Lincoln that should have been witnessed to be appreciated. It is not mentioned in his book. Wallett was playing the clown at a circus staying in the city, and it was at the evening performance. It so happened that two of the Cathedral dignitaries had condescended to form part of the audience in the boxes. Wallett seeing them at once began to tell his audience that he had attended the morning service at the Cathedral, and that he had heard an oratorio. He explained to them what it was like, but he thought, at the same time, they would have a better idea of the oratorio if he were to repeat the performance for them. Without any more ado he produced an immense bass fiddle, and stationed himself just before the box containing the ecclesiastics. He gave out the lines most solemnly:

Jemmy Shaw,
Wilt thou lend me thy saw?

Then he commenced his imitation, which was very cleverly done, and really like an oratorio. The effect was singularly ludicrous, and the laugh was turned, however improperly, against the rev. gentlemen, one of whom disappeared before Wallett's singing and playing had come to an end. His travels are full of interest, abounding with the ups and downs of life, and the tricks of Fortune—a life of "moving accidents by flood and field," that might have been turned to good use by a practised writer. But Wallett tells the story himself very indifferently—we do not say he could tell it better, if he were to go over the ground again. He cannot make the best of a good story (in writing), let alone the turning of a bad one to good account. He has a knack, too, of continually saying a little too much for himself, "as who should say 'I am Sir Oracle.'" But taking it altogether the book is a creditable production, and will be welcomed by Wallett's admirers.

The Roman Painter and his Model. By Marie Sibree. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

This little book contains only eight short chapters, but the work is interesting and is worth reading. The story opens with a few words in honour of the Tiber, the old river that has seen kingdoms rise and fall, ages come and go, and is still flowing on to-day as when Brutus lived—

"For men may come and men may go,
But I flow on for ever."

The reader must imagine himself living in 1520, when "the ears of Christendom were tingling with the report of Luther's defiance of papal authority." The hero is a young man named Andrea Cola, an artist, who has pleased the Pope by one of his paintings. His Holiness asks Cola to paint for him a picture of the Crucifixion, and the young man is delirious with dreams of future fame. Then a difficulty arises—where shall he get a model? He is crossing the Tiber on his way home from the Vatican, when the hungry, dejected look of the ferryman attracts his attention. The result is that the ferryman, who is a poor man, is hired as Andrea's model. Now you have "The Roman Painter and his Model." The next day a cross is made, and everything prepared for the painter to begin his work. The cross is reared, and Andrea binds the ferryman to it with strong cords; "the bench was then withdrawn, and the wretched boatman uttered a cry of pain." With limbs half dislocated, the boatman groans, and the painter begins his famous picture. This goes on from day to day until the picture is finished, except the final touches to the face. It suddenly strikes Andrea, when he has bound his model to the cross for the last time, that the proper thing to do is to run a poniard into the ferryman's side, so that he may get the look of a dying man. "Suddenly facing the cross, the artist sprang forward and plunged his dagger into the unsuspecting boatman's side," and "almost before the red tide had gushed from the cruel wound, and the first groan had escaped the victim's lips, Andrea had snatched up his brush, and was painting in hot haste to catch the waterman's dying look of anguish and reproach." The picture is finished, and the Pope is well pleased, exclaiming, "You are a wonderful painter, Cola. By the holy rood this is *death* indeed!" But what becomes of the model? Andrea doesn't care to see a dead man in his studio, so he puts a stone round his neck and drops him into the Tiber. And now we come to the most wonderful part of all. Andrea's guilt is known to a priest named Bernard Austein—not a Roman Catholic priest, but a follower of Luther. He tells the painter he knows him to be a murderer, but if he will believe in Jesus Christ he will be saved. Thereupon Cola thinks that to be about the best thing he can do; he *believes* in Christ accordingly, goes on painting landscapes, has a run over to Italy, comes back, and lives a very comfortable sort of life! The author has fallen into the common fault of filling her book with religious controversy, winding up, as is generally the case in these tales of old Rome, with the everlasting glory of Protestants, the eternal damnation of all outside the pale of Protestantism being taken for granted.

NEW MUSIC.

"The Pioneer's March." By Geo. Forbes. London: Robert Cocks and Co.

Mr. Geo. Forbes will not add anything to his reputation by the "Pioneer's March," which is by no means one of the best things we have seen by this composer. It is, however, easy to play.

"Oh, say not Woman's Heart is Bought." By Adam Wright. London: Robert Cocks and Co.

This piece is transcribed for the pianoforte from Whitaker's song. To begin with it is too long, and too noisy. Of course we should not make these objections if the music were pretty. We like the air, but nothing besides.

"Der Freischutz" (Weber). By G. F. West. London: Robert Cocks and Co.

There is no mistake about this—it *is* music, and bears the name of a transcriber who is always worth the hearing. Mr. West makes the best of good music, and we can nearly always recommend his work.

"The Nest Bird's Call," By Immanuel Liebich. London: Robert Cocks and Co.

"The Nest Bird's Call"—a pretty title—is written in five flats. All who can play it we think will like it, for it is sweet, and will claim attention throughout.

Maravilla Cocoa for Breakfast.—The *Globe* says:—"Taylor Brothers' Maravilla Cocoa has achieved a thorough success, and supersedes every other cocoa in the market. For homœopaths and invalids we could not recommend a more agreeable or valuable beverage." Sold in packets only, by all Grocers. [717

Important.—14, Carr's Lane, Birmingham. Established 1861, for the sale of Pure Tea. Connoisseurs pronounce the Tea sold at this Warehouse superior to any that can be obtained elsewhere. 25 per cent saved in value. [537

Gentlemen, desirous of having their Linens dressed to perfection, should supply their Laundresses with the "Glenfield Starch," which imparts a brilliancy and elasticity gratifying alike to the senses of sight and touch. [710

Rosseter's Hair Restorer is the only preparation which can be confidently relied upon for restoring grey hair to its original colour. It assists nature in supplying the colouring properties which may have become deficient through age or disease. Price 3s. 6d. per bottle. [628

Luxuriant and Beautiful Hair.—A guarantee goes with every bottle of Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer, that it will quickly restore grey or faded hair to its original youthful colour and beauty. It stops the hair from falling off. It prevents baldness. It promotes luxuriant growth. No other preparation will produce the same beneficial results. Only in large bottles, 6s. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers. Depot, 266, High Holborn, London. Also Mrs. Allen's Zylobalsamum (a Separate Preparation), the best hairdressing known—makes the hair soft and glossy, and retains it in any desired position.—(Advt.) [648

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Cardinal Cullen intends to return shortly to Rome.

Three stacks were destroyed by fire on Friday night on the farm of Mr. House, of Layer, Essex.

The expenditure of the health committee of the Liverpool Corporation was 84,000*l.* less in 1869 than in 1868.

Over seven thousand Irish and German emigrants have arrived at New York during the last few days.

Mr. George Hudson, the "ex-railway king," has been offered the management of the Sunderland Docks at a salary of £2,000 a year.

The strike of the French metal workers continues. The sugar refiners threaten a general strike.

A Belfast paper says that the sowing of flax in the north of Ireland is considerably less this year than in former years.

An infant eight months old, the son of John Marshall, of Finkle-street, York, has been so severely bitten by a rat, that it is not expected to recover.

There are five vacant seats in the House of Commons, apart from the four which have to be disposed of on the disfranchisement of Beverley and Bridgewater.

The annual prize meeting of the National Rifle Association will commence at Wimbledon on July the 11th, and continue till the evening of July 22nd.

Between 10,000 and 15,000 dollars' worth of diamonds were recently seized by some custom-house officers in New York on suspicion of having been smuggled.

The untimely intensity of the heat brought out a number of ladybirds, a flight of which settled on Thursday morning on Fleet-street and the neighbourhood.

The *Levant Herald* announces the 'death of Bishop Kingsley, of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States. He died suddenly while travelling.

At Melbourne the 15th of February was the hottest day of the season. The thermometer reached 109 degrees in the shade, and there was an overpowering hot wind blowing.

On Sunday, in the parish church of Alnwick an objection was taken by a woman in the congregation to the publication of the banns of two young people.

Mr. Murphy, the anti-Catholic lecturer, preached at the Baptist Tabernacle, Plumstead, on Sunday. He announced that Garibaldi would soon come to England, and would not return this time in consequence of "diplomatic illness."

Admission of Attorneys.—During the present term as many as one hundred and three persons have given notice of their intention to apply to be admitted as attorneys. Already there are upwards of 10,000 attorneys on the roll.

On Tuesday Mary Ann Hutchinson, wife of a fish hawker, at East Grimstead, Kent, killed another woman, named Sarah Wilkins, by striking her under the right ear. Jealousy is supposed to be the cause of the crime.

We have to announce the death, at the age of 70 years, of the Right Hon. and Rev. Lord Auckland, late Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, which happened on Monday, at his Lordship's residence at Wells, Somersetshire.

The anniversary of Lord Byron's birthday was celebrated by a banquet at Delmonico's, New York, on Monday night, and at the same time his memory was defended from Mrs. Stowe's aspersions.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have been on a short visit to Sandringham. The new mansion is very rapidly approaching completion, and there is no doubt it will be ready for occupancy by the autumn.

An important discovery is said to have been made at Jerusalem. It is an old stone bearing the figure of a god sitting on a throne with priests on both sides, and an Hunyaritish inscription, two lines in length, which had been brought from Yeman.

Foreign Intelligence.—In Saturday evening's sitting of the Cortes Senor Madoz presented several petitions from Catalonia demanding that General Espartero should be chosen King of Spain.—A press amnesty has been declared in Austria. In cases where there have been other indictments besides that for a press offence the Superior Court is ordered to decide what punishment may be inflicted. As regards press prosecutions still pending, the same are to be abandoned unless commenced at the instance of private plaints.—A dreadful accident is reported by the British Indian Cable. On Saturday night a party, including Sir Charles Sergent, Major Werden, and other officers, were returning home in a large omnibus, after a pic-nic, when the omnibus upset at the foot of a large, deep well. Madame Vinary, her daughter, and Miss Phillips were killed on the spot, and sank to the bottom of the well. All the others were injured, some seriously.

Ireland.—A farmer named Rhidge was killed in the County Kildare on Saturday. He was crossing his own fields when a large stone was thrown which struck him on the temple. A man named Hosey was arrested on suspicion, and the coroner's jury have returned a verdict of wilful murder against him. This murder is believed not to have arisen from any agrarian difficulty. Mr. D'Arcy Irvine, of Enniskillen, who recently gave his tenants notice that he was about to take the estates into his own possession, has received a letter informing him that a man has been selected to send him to his "long home" if he carries out his threatened eviction. The editor of a journal in Cork has also received a document threatening his life in consequence of certain slanders upon Irishmen which, it is alleged, were published in the papers. The Irish Executive have proclaimed the counties of Meath, Westmeath, and Mayo, and parts of Longford, Roscommon, Sligo, King's County, and Cavan. Several gentlemen have also been appointed as magistrates in order to facilitate a due administration of the powers of the Peace Act.

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS.

We have been favoured by Lieut. Colonel Scott with the following list of foreign countries which have appointed Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1871:—

Argentine Confederation.—Senor Constant Santa Maria, Buenos Ayres.

Baden.—Dr. Dietz, President of the Commission; Ministerial-Rath Turban; Professor Dr. Meidinger, manager of the Landes-Gewerb-Halle in Carlsrube.

Belgium.—Président d'honneur, Son Altesse Royale Monseigneur le Comte de Flandre. Président, M. T'Kint de Naeyer, Sénateur. Vice-présidents, MM. de Cannart d'Hamale, Sénateur; Sainctlette, Membre de la Chambre des Représentants; et De Keyser, Directeur de l'Académie Royale des Beaux Arts d'Anvers. Secrétaire, M. J. Clerfeyt, Secrétaire du Conseil Supérieur de l'Industrie et du Commerce, Brussels.

Colombia.—James L. Hart, Esq., F.R.G.S., Consul for the United States of Colombia, 3, St. Helen's Place, London.

France.—MM. Amé, Dicrecteur Général des Douanes; André (Edouard), Député au Corps Legislatif; Arago, Chef de la Division des Beaux-Arts; Baugrand, Membre de la Commission des Valeurs, Joaillier; de Cardaillac, Directeur des Bâtiments Civils; le Compte de Chambrum, Député au Corps Législatif; Cornudet, Président de Section au Conseil d'Etat, Delarbre, Conseillier d'Etat, Directeur de la Comtabilité Générale au Ministère de la Marine et des Colonies; Denière, Président de la Chambre de Commerce de Paris; Drouin, President du Tribunal de Commerce de Paris; S. Exc. M. Drouyn de Lhuys, Sénateur, Membre du Conseil Privé; du Sommerard. Directeur du Musée des Thermes et de l'Hotel de Cluny, Commissaire Géneral Adjoint; Gautier, Conseiller d'Etat, Secrétaire Général du Ministère de la Maison de l'Empereur; Gérome, Membre de l'Institut; Guillaume, Membre de l'Institut; Guillot, Intendant Général, Conseiller d'Etat, Directeur de la Comptabilité Générale au Ministère de la Guerre; Lefuel, Membre de l'Institut; Meissonnier, Membre de l'Institut; de Montagnac, Député au Corps Législatif; Comte de Nieuwerkerke, Sénateur, Membre de l'Institut; Ozenne, Conseiller d'Etat, Secrétaire Géneral du Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Commerce, Commissaire Général pour l'Exposition de Londres; Rolle, Député au Corps Législatif; Baron Alphonse de Rothschild; Sieber, Membre du Comité Consultatif des Arts et Manufactures, fabricant de tissus de laine; Viollet-Leduc, architecte; Weiss, Conseiller d'Etat, Secrétaire Général des Beaux-Arts. Secrétaires MM. Ameline, Chef du Cabinet du Ministre de l'Agriculture et du Commerce; Gerspach, Chef du Cabinet du Ministre Beaux-Arts; Frèauff-Ozenne, Chef de Bureau à la direction du Commerce Extérieur; M. Livet, Chef adjoint du Cabinet du Ministre de l'Agriculture et du Commerce, remplira les Fonctions du Secretaire adjoint.

Hesse.—Herr Schleiermacher, Councillor of the Ministry of Finance, President of the Central Office for Commerce and Industry, Darmstadt.

Norway.—M. O. Pihl, Frognerrien, Christiana.

Russia.—M. Boutowski, Privy Councillor, Director of the Department of Commerce and Manufactures, St. Petersburgh.

Sweden.—M. Fahnehjelm, of the Office for Ecclesiastical Affairs, Stockholm.

Switzerland.—Albert Streckeisen, Esq., Consul General for the Swiss Confederation, 7, Great Winchester-street Buildings, London.

United States.—N.M. Beckwith, Esq., New York.

Wurtemberg.—Dr. von Steinbeis, President of the Board of Trade and Commerce, President of the Exhibition Commission, Stuttgart.

CONVALESCENT HOME AT WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

Within the last few months there has been opened at Weston-super-Mare a Convalescent Home, also known as the West of England Sanatorium. It is intended for the reception of persons convalescent from accident or disease, or debilitated, who pay such weekly sums for their maintenance as the committee fix; and it has a president, treasurer, two auditors, life governors, a committee, an honorary physician, an honorary surgeon, a medical superintendent, and a secretary.

As the Institution receives patients from the Midland Counties, many readers of this journal will probably be interested to know something of the principle by which the admittance of the sick is regulated. Each patient applying for admission has to produce a certificate from his last medical attendant, certifying that he is suffering from no infectious or contagious disease, and that the change to the sea side is likely to be of benefit to him. Each patient on admission must conform to the rules of the house and the orders of the Medical Superintendent, who has power to dismiss a patient for irregularity of conduct, disobedience to orders, or other sufficient cause. The patients are admitted by the Medical Superintendent if there is room, on the understanding that they leave, if required, at the end of their term, or before, if the change is found prejudical to them. As the Sanatorium is distinctly a *Convalescent Home*, the following persons are ineligible for admission:—

1. Persons who are blind or helpless, or children under five years of age.
2. Persons who are suffering from cancer or confirmed pulmonary consumption.
3. Persons subject to epileptic or other fits, or who are of unsound mind.
4. Persons suffering from contagious or infectious diseases.
5. Persons afflicted with chronic ulcers, attended with copious or offensive discharges, or diseases requiring active medical or surgical treatment.

Each patient is admitted for any term not less than a week and not exceeding four weeks, and is called upon to pay the maintenance money of ten shillings a week; or six shillings a week if nominated by a donor or annual subscriber having the privilege in advance. Should, however, the Medical Superintendent think it advisable, he may re-admit the patient for another month, payment being made; but no patient is permitted to remain in the Home for more than two months, without a consultation of the medical staff.

Glancing at the report which was last issued, we find that up to October, 1869, there had been admitted 55 patients from Clifton and Bristol; from Cheltenham, 14; Gloucester, 9; Oxford, 8; Birmingham, 3; Malvern, 3; Leicester, 2; Leamington, 1; from villages in Staffordshire, 2; from the Hospitals in Bristol (Childrens'), 16; Taunton, 10; Cheltenham, 9; Oxford, 2; Leamington, 1. There were 133 patients perfectly restored; 42 very much benefitted; 20 partially benefitted; and only one discharged for misconduct.

Situated on the Uphill-road, the Home faces the Bristol channel, across which blow invigorating breezes, which, of themselves, are almost sufficient to "set up" the debilitated. On one side of the Home is the village of Uphill, with its old, ruined Norman Church high on the hill, and pleasant residences below it; on the other side is the town of Weston, with the beautiful woods at the back.

The Sanatorium has been established chiefly through the instrumentality of Mr. R. A. Kinglake, who takes an active part in its management.

THE KNIFE-GRINDER.

Anything to grind to-day, sir? I'm the man as has took to Joe's road, sir, and you always found something for Joe to do. Joe, he's dead, sir; yes, Joe would drink, and its done for him. Ah, Joe was a clever chap, and might have had the handsomest truck on the road, for he was mighty quick and civil. Why they painted Joe once; I went to help him get his truck upstairs at a place in New-street, where they train 'em to paint. Lor, how beautiful Joe did look with his best clothes on, and an extra washing on the truck, with the gas a shining on him like a pantomime, and about twenty of 'em, a sitting round like a circus, a painting of him. I've often wondered why it took so many to paint Joe; but I s'pose they were all new hands at it. Well, you'd a' thought it might a' done Joe good; but bless you, painted or not painted, Joe would drink, and many's the tighteners Joe and me had with the money Joe got for being a model. So 'twas only last week as Joe says to me, "Ben," he says, "you've been a good friend to me, see that I'm put away comfortably, and I leaves you my best wishes, my truck, and my road."

Our business isn't what it was; there's so many on 'em now-a-days, sir, as don't only grind knives and scissors, but they grinds the prices too; sometimes we does very well, and sometimes we don't do at all. I think I ought to know the business, sir, for I've ground all England, Wales, and Scotland; and once I took my whole concern, truck, pony, self, and wife to Paris, and a rare day's work I did. I was grinding from morning till nine o'clock at night. The Frenchwomen would put a ha'penny on the truck, but I couldn't say a word as they knew, so I showed 'em tuppence and stuck to the scissors till I got the money. Well, I had a rare day's work, and took it might be two pounds; but I only had one day, for that night one o' their bobbies came to the sort of coffee-shop where I was stopping, and said they couldn't have no English tinkers there; so I had to come back. Oh yes, its a pleasant life enough in summer, for then I takes my tent and sleeps in the lanes; its rather awkward, though, when one of your oppersitioners borrows your pony, or your donkey, without even so much as saying "By your leave." I've often had mine swopped for a worse 'un. Well, sir, I'm off next week to Kent. I always gets down by the seaside before the swells go; the lodging people wants their knives put right, likewise their copper pots and umberellas. You see, sir, being in the mended umberella way a wife is very useful to stitch. I've had more than one wife in my time, I can tell you; but I shall have to start by myself this time, for the wife I liked best was Joe's sister, and drinking seems to run in the blood, sir—anyways, she would drink too, and now she's gone mad, poor wench. I don't think the country will look so well when I go by myself. Thank you, sir, there's your knife; I shan't put a edge on it again till winter; and Joe, you were always kind to poor Joe, he'll never put a edge on it again.

J. C.

The rumour that Sir William Hutt, M.P. for Gateshead, was about to be raised to the peerage is authoritatively denied.

Fatal Colliery Accident.—Two men named John Seddon and James Walker were engaged on Thursday in repairing the Albert Pit shaft, Smithfold Collieries, Little Halton, near Bolton, when the rope supporting the scaffolding broke, and they were precipitated to the bottom of the shaft, a distance of 150 yards. Death in each case was instantaneous.

WIGS, BANDS, FRONTS, CURLS, and CHIGNONS, any Colour or Price, the largest stock in town to select from, or made to measure by first-class *men*. Human hair manufactured in *all* its branches—the newest fashions at the lowest possible prices. The largest and best 6d. and 1s. bottle of Pomade in the trade; has had an immense sale for eighteen years. Choice Hair Washes, from 1s. 6d. Lime Cream, from 1s. Genuine and delightfully perfumed Lime Juice and Glycerine, from 1s. to 6s. A very large assortment of Hair Tooth, Nail, Hat, and Cloath Brushes, by best makers, from 1s. Dressing Combs in *Tortoiseshell, Bone, Ivory, Horn,* and *Vulcanite*, from 6d. A splendid variety of fancy Back Combs, from 1s. to 50s. Large selection of Fans from 6d. to 60s., including the newest shapes and patterns. The largest stock of Toilet Requisites and Fancy Goods in the Midland Counties, selected from the best houses of Paris and London, at STEELE'S, HAIR CUTTER and ARTIST in HAIR, Opposite the Railway Station, New Street, Birmingham. [591

NEW PATENTS.

(Contributed by Messrs. Payne and Talbot, 1, Bennett's-hill, and 56, Ann-street, Birmingham.)

Improved implements adapted for constructing tube wells and driving hollow piles, and in the mode of operating therewith for those purposes. T. Clark, London.

Improvements in the manufacture of miniature or toy bricks for the use of children, for model or architectural building, and for artistic and engineering purposes, together with the apparatus in connection therewith. C. Simpson, London.

An improved machine for rolling or shaping metals. A. Bowater, Sheffield.

An improved self-lubricating metallic elastic packing, especially adapted for high temperatures. W. W. Girdwood, Bromley, Middlesex.

Improvements in apparatus for singeing horses. T. Taylor and J. W. Davies, Manchester.

Improvements in apparatus for feeding boilers, and for raising and forcing fluids generally. J. C. Mewburn, London. (A communication from Friedmann, Vienna.)

Improvements in guns for bayonet drill. P. Jensen, London. (A communication from F. de Wahlfeldt, Stockholm.)

Improvements in the manufacture of artificial stone, and for forcing liquids into porous substances. R. Spice, London. (A communication from A. Pyesmith, Bombay.)

Improvements in dock-gates and caissons for closing the entrances to docks and basins. E. Finch, Chepstow, Monmouthshire.

Improvements in electricity and means of telegraphing. E. H. C. Monckton, London.

Improvements in machinery or apparatus for filling match splints or other splints, whether made of wood, wax, glass, or any other material. L. Mount, Bromley-by-Bow, Middlesex.

Improvements in spring mattresses. J. H. Johnson, London. (A communication from F. F. J. Bully, Caen, France.)

Improvements in purifying and calcining gas and soap limes, and other chemical refuse of lime, which has been used in the manufacture of such articles. T. Prideaux, Sheffield.

Improvements in treating shoddy and other animal waste to obtain ammonia and salts of ammonia therefrom. R. Morris, Doncaster, and M. D. Penney, Stockton-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire.

Improvements in making paper. W. Hay, Glasgow.

Improvements in looms for weaving. R. Haworth, Manchester, and E. Woodcock and J. McCabe, Salford.

Improvements in shearing and clipping apparatus. G. Twigg, Birmingham.

Improvements in apparatus to be used in getting coal. C. Bartholomew, Doncaster, Yorkshire.

Improvements in methods of manufactures and combinations therewith of processes for producing pictorial, ornamental, and other designs and devices. B. G. George, London.

Improvements in treating grain, and in the mechanism employed therefor. J. Polson, Paisley, Renfrewshire, N.B.

(Patents upon which the £50 Stamp Duty has been paid.)

Improvements in sewing machines. L. B. Bruen, London.

Improvements in preparing turnips and mangel-wurzel for food of animals. H. Smith, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire.

Certain improvements in the method and apparatus for keeping warm glues, starches, gums, and other liquids, which is also applicable for keeping other articles warm. T. Booth, Ardwick, Lancashire.

Improvements in looms for weaving. E. G. Fitton and S. Dear, Leeds, Yorkshire.

Improvements in the treatment of fibrous materials, and in apparatus to be used in such treatment. J. W. Burton, Leeds, Yorkshire.

Improvements in apparatus for reducing and regulating the quantity and pressure of steam fluids and gases. G. Pollard, Derby.

Improvements in the mechanism or apparatus employed for locking, actuating, and setting in motion railway points and signals, also in the apparatus for regulating or governing the action and movement of such points and signals in relation to each other. J. Cariss, Kilburn West, Middlesex.

Improvements in looms for weaving. E. B. Bigelow, Boston, U.S.

Improvements in beer engines, which improvements are also applicable to pumps for various purposes. J. Holmes, Wylde Green, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

Improvements in looms for weaving pile and other fabrics. W. Clark, London. (A communication from J. B. Beau, Paris.)

Improvements in the manufacture of a certain description of woven fabric. J. D. Brickles, London.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—In all sores, wounds, bad legs, and sprains of any kind this Ointment is the most efficient application. It at once gives ease by allaying inflammation and moderating the flow of blood to the part. Whenever the malady has been of long standing the Ointment should be assisted by Holloway's purifying Pills, which act upon the stomach and liver, guarding digestion falling into that disordered state which the pain, restlessness, and fever attending these ailments is apt to produce, and which much retards recovery, and sometimes even makes serious the slightest case. No mother or nurse should be without these noble remedies; they are equally applicable to all ages and constitutions. They purify the blood, regulate its circulation, renew diseased structures, and invigorate the system. [563

Advice to Mothers.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist, and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately: it is perfectly harmless: it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It is very pleasant to take; it soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes.—Sold by all medicine vendors at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. [694

MISS FAITHFULL.

The name of Miss Emily Faithfull is known to the public as that of a lady who has taken a leading part in the questions touching the position of woman, and more especially with regard to her employment in many branches of industry, now almost exclusively occupied by the stronger sex, that have continually been brought forward for discussion. Miss Faithfull is not celebrated as an abstract thinker, but as the practical exponent of other's schemes. She has boldly laboured to give effect to the suggestion that had often been made as to the printing business being suitable for women. To this point she gave all her energies, leaving such co-workers as Miss Bessie R. Parkes, Miss Davis, Miss Cobbe, Miss Powers, and others the privilege to argue with the public.

Miss Faithfull was born at Headley Rectory, Surrey, in 1835, and is the daughter of the Rev. Ferdinand Faithfull. Her education, was conducted, however, at a school at Kensington. In her twenty-first year, being presented at Court, she entered for a short time into the gaieties of London life. At the same time she always evinced thoughtfulness and determination of character; and, becoming interested in her sex by a band of ladies whose acquaintance she made, she gave her whole attention to carrying out the scheme that has brought her so prominently before the public.

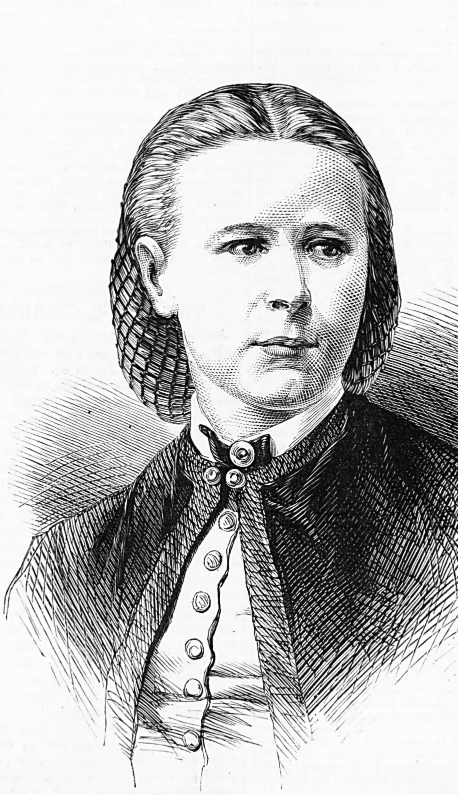
In 1860 she took a large house in Great Coram-street, Russell-square, and, gathering around her many friends interested like herself in finding remunerative employment for educated women, she commenced at once to initiate ladies into the art and mystery of type-setting. The experiment was by no means new, for it had been tried in America and failed. Miss Faithfull was perhaps ignorant of the fact at that time; however, encouraged by her energetic coadjutors, she seemed resolved that it should not fail in this country. Two experienced hands — staid elderly ladies, one the widow of a late master printer in Ireland—were engaged; young women were taken as apprentices; a gentleman, now deceased, was employed to manage the establishment (for Miss Faithfull's zeal was greater than her knowledge); other men were taken on to do the heavy work; and the machinery was set in motion. Of course a great outcry was at once raised by many jealous and ungallant male members of the printing business; but, instead of putting an end to Miss Faithfull's manœuvres, their opposition directed attention more fully to the exertions she was making. The result was that work flowed in so rapidly to Miss Faithfull's establishment, that she found it necessary to take other large premises in Farringdon-street, city, where steam machinery was put in use and more hands engaged, a deaf and dumb girl being amongst the number. The Queen signified her approval of the work, and the office was called "The Victoria Press," by which name it is still known though the great Coram-street establishment has long being given up.

Everything being in good working order Miss Faithfull set to work in producing a handsome presentation volume, which was entitled the "Victoria Regia." By special permission it was dedicated to the Queen, who was pleased to signify her approval by giving a warrant appointing Miss Faithfull printer and publisher in ordinary to her Majesty. The "Victoria Regia" is a handsome quarto volume, embellished with engravings and initial letters. It contains short tales and miscellaneous contributions by many of the best writers of the day of both sexes. This publication proved successful, and in consequence many first-rate books were brought out. In May, 1863, Miss Faithfull commenced a monthly publication under the title of the *Victoria Magazine*, which is still published, and holds a good position amongst the publications of its class.

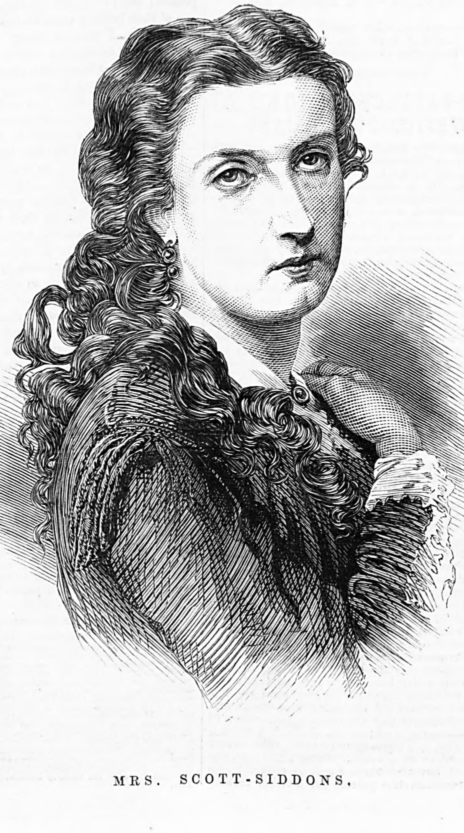
Miss Faithfull next opened a publishing office, provided with all things necessary for a bookseller, stationer, and bookbinder, in Princes-street, Hanover-square. At one time the three offices were all in full work, but one is now entirely discontinued.

This then was the great object Miss Faithfull had in view, by which to find suitable and remunerative employment for her sex, and this was the step that many thought would revolutionise the printing business, and prove of lasting advantage to women. But the results have not proved so satisfactory as Miss Faithfull wished; it has been shown that ladies must turn their attention to some other source than printing to secure a competence.

But when all is said, Miss Faithfull is entitled to the highest praise for the great good she has done in many ways in helping women to speak and act for themselves. She is not unknown as an author; she has read papers at the meetings of the Social Science Association, and contributed to the *Victoria Magazine*, of which she is the editor.



MISS EMILY FAITHFULL



MRS. SCOTT-SIDDONS.

MRS. SCOTT-SIDDONS.

The name of this lady, whose portrait we give on this page, will be well known to our readers through the successful readings given by her at the Hanover-square Rooms, and her subsequent appearance at the Haymarket as Rosalind in "As you Like It." This alone would have given her a name and fame in the theatrical world, even if she had not gained a deserved reputation by her acting in the Scottish and Irish capitals, and also several of our large provincial towns.

Mrs. Siddons gave her first public reading in London on Monday, April 1, 1867. At that time great interest was manifested as to how she would acquit herself in this new undertaking, perhaps not so much on her own account as being the descendant of the great Mrs. Siddons, her relation to the tragic muse of England being officially announced in the published programme. But when she had made her first appearance, she attracted such an audience on following nights that could not have been brought together but by talent.

A short history of this *artiste* we think will interest the reader. Mrs. Siddons had three sons, one of whom (George) held a high civil appointment in India. Captain William Young Siddons, of the 65th Bengal Light Infantry, the youngest son of George, married the daughter of Colonel Earl, and the issue of this marriage was Mary Frances, the lady with whom we are now specially concerned, who, marrying a naval officer named Scott, blended her husband's name with her own, a common professional usage. Mrs. Scott-Siddons has been married about seven years. It is said that her father when she was very young noticed her talent for acting. After his death, his widow, being left with four children, educated her two daughters in Germany. Mary Frances Siddons when only eleven years old attracted great attention by her performance of a French play, "Esther." After this achievement she was continually acting in French and German in the most difficult plays of Schiller, Racine, Molière, Corneille, &c. Her impersonation of the youth Mortimer in Schiller's "Marie Stuart" was such as to induce one of the principals of the school to make inquiries of Mr. Charles Kean as to the desirability of having her educated for the professson of an actress. That great tragedian thought she was too young, and believed it would be better for her to defer studying for a few years. Before giving her readings at the Hanover-square Rooms she had prepared herself by careful practice, and had given private readings at the West-end.

The personal appearance of Mrs. Siddons is decidedly in her favour—she is lady-like in her deportment, and exhibits considerable natural vivacity, which gives great effect to her playing, especially in high comedy. "So youthful does she look," remarked one of the leading journals on her first appearance, "that the statement that she has been married four years would scarcely be believed were it less responsibly made; and not only is her countenance distinguished by singular brightness and intelligence, but her features and general expression remind the spectator of one or two of the more familiar portraits of Mrs. Siddons; the adjustment of the hair, which flows freely, being evidently intended to further the resemblance. Her attitudes, though not without the trace of study, are pleasing and graceful throughout, and as the eloquence of gesticulation is employed by her to a greater extent than is common with 'readers,' the platform affords a fair indication of the qualities which have enabled her as an actress to acquire fame in various parts."

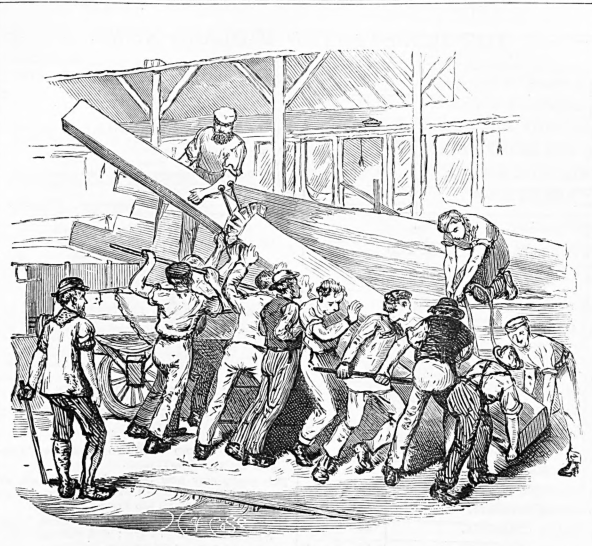
A Free Church of England has just been opened at Wheelton, near Blackburn, nearly the whole congregation of the parish of Hespey having seceded from the parish church. The New Free Church is in the Gothic style of architecture.

The Yeomanry Cavalry.—According to the new regulations decided upon by the authorities at the War Office respecting the re-organisation of the yeomanry regiments of the kingdom, no regiment will be allowed to have more than eight troops, and the number of men in each troop is not to exceed fifty. Should the regulations be strictly enforced the Queen's Own Regiment of Staffordshire Yeomanry, which comprises eleven troops, and numbers now 892 men, of whom 650 are effective, will have three troops struck off, and the country will lose the services of 250 disciplined men. The Government, however, seem unwilling to break up any existing corps, and will allow corps with only three troops to raise an additional troop; and it is not improbable, therefore, that some means will be found by which the Staffordshire regiment will be permitted to retain all its existing troops.

INCIDENTS OF THE WEEK.

SCENE AT SNOW HILL STATION, BIRMINGHAM.

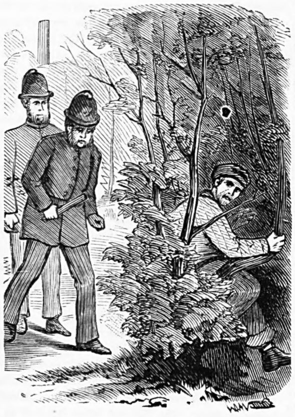
For the last three weeks the Great Western Station at Snow Hill, Birmingham, has been a scene of desolation; the whole structure being in process of demolition to make room for the new building, of which we hope to say something shortly. A more extraordinary sight can hardly be imagined. On the eve of Good Friday there was nothing to be seen of the original unsightly wooden edifice but uprights and transverse beams. Workmen were perched at a dizzy height to detach the planks and beams from each other; below, carpenters tugged with ropes at the huge pieces of timber which had formed the supports of the station; the air was filled with dust; hundreds of passengers waited on both sides of the station for the trains which were to take them for their Easter holidays; and the trains ran between tall beams leaning all manner of ways. It is a fortunate circumstance that no accident happened during the demolition of the wooden building. The new station, which we hope to illustrate shortly, is, we believe, to cost £20,000; we need not say that the change from the old to the new station will be warmly welcomed by all who travel on the Great Western.



SCENE AT SNOW HILL STATION, BIRMINGHAM.

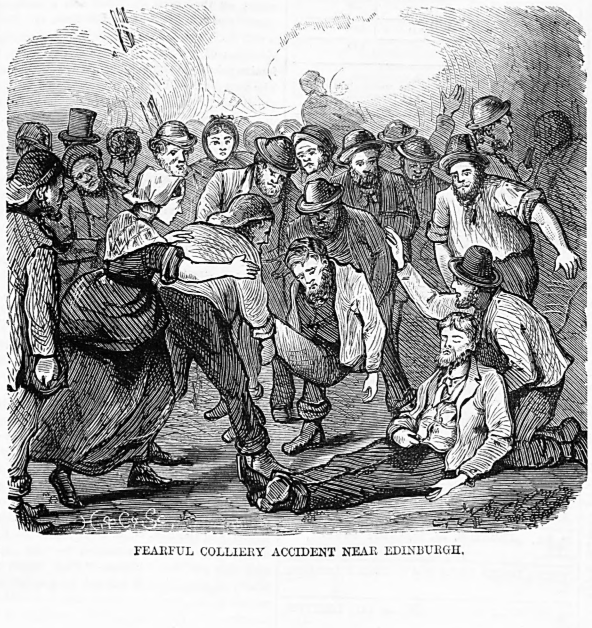
CHASE AFTER BURGLARS.

An exciting chase after burglars took place a few days ago in Cumberland. An attempt was made by thieves to break into the shop of Mr. Reed, watchmaker, Brampton. The thieves succeeded in getting two of the shutters down, but at this stage were disturbed in their operations by the approach of a policeman. Mr. Reed had heard a noise, and on looking out saw four men, but thought they were some townsmen on the "spree." Whilst inquiries were being made into the affair, Mr. Riddell, landlord of the Beckside public-house, Brampton, came up, with the information that his house had been broken into, and a patent lever watch, together with some silver, stolen therefrom. The burglars had obtained access to Mr. Riddell's house by opening the kitchen window. The inmates had been aroused by the noise, and Mr. Riddell and two neighbours pursued five men, one of whom, Peter M'Gonnigal, they captured. Mr. Riddell had a gun, which he fired, and, as it afterwards turned out, hit one of the men. Superintendent Carson and Sergeant Hutchinson had by this time arrived on the scene. They separated to scour the district, and an exciting chase ensued. The Superintendent and Sergeant Hutchinson found another of the burglars concealed in a bush. This was the man who had been shot by Mr. Riddell. His name was James M'Gregor, and he was so much injured by the gunshot that he could go no farther. The police succeeded in apprehending three of the burglars.



THE FEARFUL COLLIERY ACCIDENT NEAR EDINBURGH.

This shocking catastrophe, which resulted in the loss of seven lives, has been previously reported. When the fire in the workings was discovered there were 56 men in the pit; but in less than ten minutes 49 had been brought up through the flames. After the fire had been extinguished, search was made in the pit for the missing men. They were found lying about in different directions on their faces, only one being in the least bruised. It is the opinion of medical men that death was caused by want of air, the flames in the shafts having actually exhausted the air in the pit. Six out of the seven dead men were married, and five of them leave large families. It is stated that while the men were being drawn up, the rope attached to the cage took fire, and the men were watching expecting every moment that it would break. The pit belongs to Simpson and Co., in which firm Mr. M'Lagan, M.P., is a partner.



FEARFUL COLLIERY ACCIDENT NEAR EDINBURGH.

Burglars Disturbed.—Early on Tuesday morning, the policeman, in going his rounds, discovered a ladder at the back window of Mr. B. Nathan, jeweller, Bull-street, Birmingham. The marks of a crow-bar at the back shutters showed that an attempt had been made to break into the premises, which no doubt the vigilance of the police frustrated.

THE SLANDER ON THE PRINCE OF WALES.

A paragraph was recently published in the papers to the effect that the Prince of Wales would shortly make his appearance as co-respondent in a divorce suit to be instituted by the Earl of Sefton against his Countess. The statement was entirely incorrect; how it got into print is thus explained by Mr. Leng, editor of the *Sheffield Telegraph*, against which journal an action is to be brought:—

> "The unfortunate paragraph in which the Prince was named appeared in a London evening paper on Saturday, April 2. It was telegraphed to this office, in common with nearly all the daily newspaper offices in the provinces, by the agents of the Press Association in London. Several country papers had previously published the same rumour, with even greater circumstantiality; and it must have been current long before, for I have before me an American paper of March 30, in which a London telegram, of March 28, couples the Prince's name with 'another divorce suit,' though other names are omitted. The *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, therefore, in no sense originated the scandal. What it is responsible for—and I most deeply regret it—is that the paragraph, so copied from the London evening paper, and telegraphed here, was published by us two days after its appearance in London, and that in my absence through illness, without my knowledge or assent, one of my sub-editors, in a moment of deplorable indiscretion, added to this paragraph a line containing the names of the Earl and Countess Sefton."

The following are the affidavits filed in the Court of Queen's Bench as grounds for the application for a rule *nisi* for a criminal information against Mr. Leng, printer, publisher, and part proprietor of the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, for libel against the Prince of Wales and the Earl and Countess of Sefton:—

Affidavit of Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, of Marlborough House, Middlesex, sworn on the 14th of April, 1870, states as follows:—

1. I have read the paragraph in the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*.

2. I was never guilty of the slightest impropriety with the said Countess of Sefton, and there is not the slightest foundation or pretext for the statement that I am likely to be mentioned in the Divorce Court as a co-respondent in a case by the Earl of Sefton against the Countess.

3. I know of nothing, and I cannot conceive of anything, which could have suggested or given rise to such a statement.

The joint affidavit of the Earl and Countess of Sefton stated:—

1. We have read the paragraph in the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*.

2. We were married on the 18th of July, 1866.

3. We have lived together from the date of our marriage down to the present time in perfect harmony and affection, and we have three children.

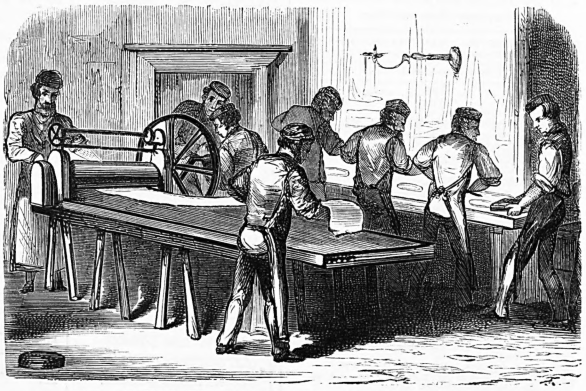
4. There is not the slightest shadow of foundation or pretext for the statement above set forth, as contained in the *Sheffield Telegraph*.

5. And I, the said Earl, for myself say I know of nothing and I cannot conceive of anything which could have suggested or given rise to such a statement.

6. And I, the said Countess, for myself say I know of nothing and cannot conceive of anything which could have suggested or given rise to such a statement.

7. There has never been the slightest impropriety of any kind between his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and myself.

8. And we, the said Earl and Countess, say that we cannot look upon the said statement as anything but a wicked falsehood and calumny.



MAKING THE PASSOVER BREAD AT BIRMINGHAM.

PASSOVER BREAD.

We this week give an illustration of the kneading and rolling process in the manufacture of Passover Bread in Birmingham for the Jewish community, and used by them at the Feast of the Passover, which has just terminated. Until recently this bread was made only in London, but owing to the exertions of the Birmingham Provident Co-operative Matza Association, under the organisation of the Rev. D. N. Adler, with Mr. Lyons as president, Passover cakes are now made in Birmingham. The Association was formed for the purpose of supplying these cakes as near cost price as posssible, to give employment at the same time to the labouring classes of the Jewish community, and to encourage provident habits. As we have stated above, the Passover bread was formerly only to be obtained in London. The price was high, and the supply was not always certain. By baking it in Birmingham the reduction is something like 2d. to 3d. per lb., and the quality is rather superior.

Every care is taken in the making of the cakes. Particular attention is first paid to the selection of the wheat. A clerical committee is then appointed to examine the wheat to see if it is in a fit state to be ground for flour to make the Passover bread. The wheat must be perfectly free from any damp or moisture, sprouting or disease, and should be of the same year's growth unless there is a scarcity of wheat. Then the mill has to be prepared, the stones have to be recut, the bolting clothes must be new, and every part of the machinery used for grinding made perfectly clean. The chamber must be freed from all flour, or any wheat that may be lodged there. A person is appointed to remain at the mill during the time the wheat is being ground, and does not leave until the flour is placed in bags, sealed, and removed to the bakehouse in Bristol-street.

A certain quantity of flour is mixed with a certain quantity of water, and if the man by accident puts in too much water he is not allowed to add more flour, but is made to begin his mixing all over again. The dough is pressed through steel rollers, rolled out very thin, and then cut into round pieces and perforated, as represented in our illustration. The time permitted for baking, according to the laws, is fifteen minutes from the time of mixing, perforating, and placing in the oven, but in Birmingham it is done in ten minutes: this is not offending against the laws, which provide that baking must not *exceed* fifteen minutes.

Two men in London have been each fined £1, or 14 days' imprisonment, for hanging a cat.

The Pope and the Marquis of Bute.—The Pope has been pleased to confer on the Marquis of Bute the Grand Cross of Gregory XVI. He will receive an audience to return thanks for the favour when he comes back from a yachting cruise in the Mediterranean. The Marquis has sent the Holy Father an Easter offering of 10,000 francs.

Rumoured arrival of Fenians in London.—The London correspondent of the *Dublin Express* states that the Government have received information that a number of Fenians have arrived in London from America. On Wednesday morning Colonel Frazer, of the City of London police, warned the proprietors of the *Times* that an attack might be made upon the office of that journal, and of course precautions have been taken to frustrate the attempt, should it be made. Since then the police have been engaged in taking down the names of persons living at all the regular lodging-houses in the metropolis. There is also a Fenian alarm at Birkenhead.

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NOTICE.

TO NEWS AGENTS, PICTURE DEALERS, AND THE PUBLIC.

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CAUTION TO FAMILIES.—To prevent mistakes or detect theft, mark your linen, &c., with Clarke's Indelible Marking Ink.—Prepared only by A. Court, 35, Bull Street, Minories corner. Established 70 years. [676

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The Illustrated MIDLAND NEWS

BIRMINGHAM, APRIL 30, 1870.

IT must not be supposed, because no news of the distress in Jerusalem has been lately received, that there is an abundance of water, or that even anything like a sufficient quantity of rain has fallen. Far from it. Rain is still badly wanted, and there has been another visitation of locusts. Wheat and barley are at famine prices—twenty-eight piastres the measure. The poor Jews will be the greatest sufferers from the drought. The benevolent cannot be too quick in sending relief for the distressed inhabitants.

The authorities at Marlborough College have taken a most judicious step, though not before some decided course of action was rendered necessary. It will be remembered that a few weeks ago scarlatina made its appearance in the school, and that all the boys were consequently sent home. We gather from the *Lancet* that additional masters' houses are to be erected, that every boy will in future have a sufficiency of area and cubic space, and that the ventilation is to be improved. There is also to be "a fourth meal, or supper," to which no one will object. The Council's resolutions properly carried out, we may reasonably hope to have heard the last of scarlatina at Marlborough College.

THE "religious" part of the education question has been discussed by the Worcester Diocesan Board of Education. As might have been expected, the Board was almost unanimously in favour of religious instruction in all schools resting on "the positive basis of the teaching of the Bible, and not be left to the uncertainty of a permissive condition." The Rev. D. Melville moved, and the Rev. G. D. Boyle, Vicar of Kidderminster, seconded a motion to that effect, with this additional clause—"That whilst the liberty of conscience is secured by a strict conscience clause, such conscience clause should not interfere with the time, subject, or method of the religious nstruction iin any school." Two gentlemen dissented from the terms of the motion.

THE question of a new Fish Market for Birmingham has been so long before the public, that some surprise may well be expressed at the inaction of the municipal authorities in whose hands the matter rests. For several years the only accommodation for wholesale fish-salesmen has been in Bell-street, on the site of the Old Nelson Hotel; but this is a very inconvenient place for a market of such large dimensions, the street being narrow, and frequently almost impassable, owing to the number of vehicles and people standing about. It is stated that the quantity of fish arriving at Birmingham on one day is sometimes upwards of 200 tons, and that some of the dealers expend £200 a week for the carriage of the fish by rail. The inaction of the Markets and Fairs Committee has led to a movement on the part of some of the persons principally interested in the matter for the purchase of a site near the old fish market, between Dale-end and Moor-street. Considering the excellent accommodation provided for the vendors of fruit, flowers, and vegetables, it is rather hard upon the fish-salesmen that they should have no other place in which to transact their business than the open street.

IN the death of Mr. George Henry Moore, M.P., Ireland has lost one of the most devoted and one of the most mistaken of her sons. Passionate and self-willed to a degree, the late member for Mayo was constantly at strife with someone. Looked at with his eyes, England was the most tyrannical nation under the sun, never deigning to concede to Ireland what the Irish people so strenuously demand—justice. In Parliament, and out of Parliament, he was ever raising his voice on behalf of his unhappy country; and in the midst of his endeavours to secure to his countrymen what he doubtless believed was their due, the swift hand of Death, which knocks alike at the palace and the cottage-gate, is stretched out, and the voice of the speaker is hushed for ever. There is something particularly melancholy about Mr. Moore's death—something which causes those who differed from him to stay their hands, and write nothing but what is good of the dead. He died suddenly by a stroke of apoplexy. Mr. Moore was the eldest son of the late Mr. George Moore, of Moore Hall. He was born in the county of Mayo, in the year 1811, and was educated, first, at the Roman Catholic College of St. Mary, at Oscott, near Birmingham, and afterwards at Christ's College, Cambridge. He was first returned for his native county in the advanced Liberal interest, or rather, we should say, as "a supporter of Repeal and Tenant-right," at the general election of 1847, and again in 1852, on both occasions at the head of the poll. At the general election of 1857 he stood second, his former colleague, Mr. Ouseley Higgins, being ousted by Captain (now Sir William Henry Roger) Palmer. He did not offer himself as a candidate in 1859, but was once more re-chosen at the last general election. It is almost needless to add that he was a strong supporter of the disestablishment of the Irish Church, and his conduct in Parliament with respect to Mr. Gladstone's other legislation for Ireland must be fresh in the memory of our readers. Mr. Moore, who was a magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant, and at one time High Sheriff of the county of Mayo, married, in 1851, a daughter of Mr. Maurice Blake, of Ballinafad, by whom he has left issue.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE.—On Thursday se'nnight the marriage of the Hon. Miss Lawley, eldest daughter of Lord Wenlock, with the Hon. Captain Molyneux, brother of the Earl of Sefton, was solemnised at the village of Escrick:—

> The wedding party left Escrick Hall shortly after eleven o'clock, passing through several gaily decorated triumphal arches on their way to the church, which was crowded. The bride was magnificently attired in a rich white poult de soie dress, trimmed with flounces of tulle, surmounted by a deep flounce of point de Bruxelles lace, a wreath of orange blossoms and myrtle, and a veil of the same kind of lace as the above, secured by pearl and diamond stars (presented by the tenantry on Lord Wenlock's various estates in Yorkshire, Staffordshire, and Shropshire). The bride also wore round her neck a row of magnificent Oriental pearls (the gift of her uncle, the Marquis of Westminster), with a pendant of diamonds and emeralds (the gift of the Earl and Countess of Sefton). The bridesmaids were the Hon. Alethea Lawley, the Hon. Constance Lawley, the Hon. Catharine Lawley (sisters of the bride), the Lady Elizabeth Parker, the Lady Adelaide Parker, and Miss Mary Stuart Wortley.

The marriage ceremony was performed by the Hon. and Rev. S. W. Lawley (uncle of the bride). The bride was given away by her father. After the ceremony the bridal party returned to the hall, where a most sumptuous *dejeuner* was partaken of by a numerous company. The happy pair left in the afternoon for Croxteth Park, near Liverpool, the seat of the Earl and Countess of Sefton. The marriage presents were superb, their total value being estimated at several thousands of pounds. Amongst the contributors were Prince Teck, her Royal Highness Princess Mary, the Archbishop of York and Mrs. Thomson, the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster, the Earl of Sefton, and others. An address of congratulation from the tenantry on the Shropshire, Staffordshire, and Yorkshire estates accompanied the presents.

"I had been for 15 years subject to the gout, and never through that long period free from it a fortnight, till by the advice of a friend, who had been cured of it by Perry Davis's Pain Killer, I tried it, and got immediate relief.—Thos. Nicholas, Upper Holloway, *May* 16, 1867.—To Perry Davis & Son."

NEWS OF THE MIDLANDS.

Lady Mordaunt's mental condition remains unchanged.

The new Post-office at Wolverhampton will cost £5,600.

The Keble College, Oxford, will be opened in June, possibly by Lord Salisbury, Chancellor of the University. It will probably not be incorporated with the University.

The *Chamber of Agriculture Journal* thinks there is little doubt that Wolverhampton will be selected for the 1871 Show of the Royal Agricultural Society. The Council have visited Shrewsbury, Stafford, and Wolverhampton.

Strike at Cookley.—The employés at Messrs. Knight and Company's Tinplate Works at Cookley are out on strike, and there seems to be little probability of any arrangement being come to between the masters and the men. There are nearly 100 hands out.

The Triennial Festival.—The Hereford "Festival of the Three Choirs" is fixed to open on August 22, and the Dean and Chapter of Hereford have not only granted the use of the cathedral for the purpose of the morning oratorios as usual, but they have this year made a further concession in permitting its use on the evening of the first day for a performance of sacred music.

Sheffield and the Education Question.—A very large meeting was held on Monday night at Sheffield for the purpose of considering the Education Bill and the various amendments which have been proposed. The meeting expressed itself strongly in favour of undenominational teaching, and Mr. Mundella, M.P., while giving credit to the Government bill for its provisions, insisted that secular education was indispensible for the country.

Fatal Railway Collision.—A fatal collision took place at four o'clock on Saturday morning at the Sykes Junction of the Great Northern Railway, about seven miles from Lincoln. Two luggage trains, one from Doncaster and the other from Retford, through some mishap not yet explained, ran into each other. One of the firemen was killed, besides three horses. Several trucks were smashed, and the line was blocked for some time.

Colliery Accident at Bilston.—Early on Thursday morning two colliers at Messrs. Sparrow's Millfield Colliery, Bilston, entered the skip to begin work in the pit, and intimation was given to the engine tenter that they wished to be lowered down. The engine was set in motion and the covering over the mouth of the pit was taken off. Instead, however, of the colliers being let down, they were dashed up to the top of the overhanging scaffold or pulley. One of the two (John Dudley), by a desperate effort, clutched one of the supports of the revolving iron pulley wheel, and escaped without much injury; but the other, John Ashley, 57 years of age, was carried in the skip over the wheel, and fell with the skip, smashed and dying, on to the pit bank. Within half an hour death had ended his sufferings. Before that time the engine-tenter had absconded.

Education in Birmingham.—Mr. G. Dixon, M.P., presided at the third annual meeting, on Thursday se'nnight, of the Birmingham Education Society, the object of which is to pay school fees of the children of poor parents. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Dixon said it seemed to him important to seek rather to increase than to relax their efforts in the direction they had hitherto taken. On the eve of passing a great measure of educational reform, there might seem to be less reason for exertion than hitherto existed, but as the report said, in the matter of the Government Bill, all was uncertainty. If passed, it could have no practical effect for two or three years, and it was possible that it might be withdrawn altogether. If such should be the case, no one would regret it more than himself, but nevertheless he feared it would be so, for they were finding out the truth of Mr. Bright's remark as to the difficulty of driving more than one omnibus at a time through Temple Bar. The society began by paying for 3,000 children; but now, owing to failure of subscriptions, the number had fallen to 1,500. He called upon subscribers to increase their contributions, invited those who availed themselves of the great endowment of King Edward's Free Grammar School to do something for the education of the children of the poor, and asked if the wealthy, who always ought to consider themselves the stewards of their wealth for the benefit of their less fortunate fellow-creatures, could find a worthier object to which to dedicate a portion of their superfluity than the education of the children of the destitute poor.

The Volunteer Movement in Staffordshire.—A county meeting has been held at Stafford for the purpose of making a public appeal for subscriptions towards the funds of the County Rifle Association. The Earl of Lichfield, who is the Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire, claimed for the Volunteer force generally that the experience the country had had of it during the decade that it had been in existence more than confirmed the early expectations of its most sanguine friends. This was so in respect alike of numbers and of efficiency; and the Staffordshire Volunteers might be fairly taken as a sample of the whole. In the year 1861, when the movement was taken up in that county, there were 3,454 Volunteers; in 1866 it had risen to 4,006, and at the present time it stood at 4,407, exclusive of Yeomanry, Militia, and the like. What was really wanted to improve the force was better organisation. The Staffordshire Volunteers started with £2,700, contributed by the country. That sum, it had been calculated, would be spent in five years, but it had, aided by £150 a year secured by the annual review, lasted nine years. Their balance now stood at £115; the annual cost was £440. This, allowing the same £150 for the review, would leave £300 a-year to be subscribed by the county. His Lordship concluded by moving a resolution appealing for subscriptions, and promising for himself £100 in five years. Lord Hatherton, in seconding the motion, urged the importance of the Volunteers being brigaded to render them efficient, and said that the formation of the force had put a stop to the insults upon our defenceless condition with which previously we were being constantly annoyed. The motion was adopted, and steps were begun for carrying it into effect.

Lord Lyttelton will preside at a meeting to be held at the Masonic Hall on Monday next, at three p.m., in the interest of the only existing European Public School for Blind Sons of Gentlemen, which has lately been established in Worcester.

The Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury have left town for Paris.

The return of Mr. Robinson for Bristol is to be petitioned against.

A detachment of the 12th Lancers passed through Wolverhampton and Birmingham this week on their way to Aldershott from Dublin.

The Worcestershire Militia came up at the county town for their annual training on Monday. The muster-roll showed a total of 927, with only a few absentees.

A testimonial is to be presented to Captain McInnis, until lately the popular adjutant of the First Warwickshire Rifle Volunteers.

Jeremiah Briggs, a draper's assistant, has committed suicide at Bordesley, Birmingham, by taking poison.

Mr. and Mrs. Allsopp and family have arrived from Hindlip Hall, Worcestershire, at the Earl of Shrewsbury's mansion in Belgrave Square, which they have taken for the season.

A Pauper Suicide.—On Friday Joseph Harris, an inmate of Bromsgrove Workhouse, committed suicide by hanging himself with his neckerchief to the balustrades of one of the staircases of the Union Workhouse. Deceased had been an inmate for many years, and there is no doubt he was insane at the time he committed the act.

The Bridgwater Election.—Sir J. Karslake, in the Court of Queen's Bench, on Saturday, applied, on behalf of Mr. Kinglake, who has been convicted of bribery at the late Bridgwater election, for a new trial on certain technical grounds. After argument the Court declined to grant a rule. Sentence will be pronounced on an early day.

The Opening of the Midland Fine Arts Exhibition at Derby.—The opening of this most attractive exhibition will take place, as announced, on the 5th of May, by his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Lord High Steward of the Corporation. The Mayor of Derby will entertain his Grace and the members of the Corporation and the Committee at dinner at the Royal Hotel.

Sheffield Architectural and Archæological Society.—The first excursion for this year of the members of this society took place on Saturday, when a party of ladies and gentlemen went by the new Midland line to Chesterfield. They were conducted through the town by Mr. Swift, who pointed out objects of interest, and read an able paper on the "History of the Town and Church." The Rev. J. Stacye gave a detailed description of the church, pointed out its principal characteristics, not forgetting its curious spire, the peculiar form of which he considered to result from the action of the sun upon the green timber used in its construction. After examining the church the party took tea together, and returned home by an early train.

BIRMINGHAM EDUCATION UNION.

The Earl of Harrowby presided, on Saturday, at a conference of Midland schoolmasters held at Birmingham. The following points were discussed:—1. How far the religious difficulty has been felt by the parents. 2. Ought the schoolmaster to be the teacher of religious truth within the school? 3. What would be the effect of a time-table conscience clause? There was a general agreement among the speakers that there was no religious difficulty, teachers of various denominational schools declaring that they had scarcely ever met with any evidence of its existence. The teacher of the Oratory (Roman Catholic) Poor School gave this testimony:—"The so-called religious difficulty has never troubled me. In fact, I never heard of it in public schools till some very kind gentleman mentioned it last September. In this town there is a school of about eighty boys, and out of that number there are at the present time twenty Protestant boys; in the girls' and in the infants' schools there are more children. All these receive Catholic instruction, and yet we never hear any complaints. My school is in the centre of four Protestant schools; we hold out no inducement; we never advertise or puff our school. Why is it, then, that professed Protestants send their children to us if there is a religious difficulty? They knew their children would be taught the same religion as that we profess; that they will have to listen to Catholic prayers and associate with Catholic children; that they will be taught to make the sign of the cross, and venerate the sacred symbol of our redemption; that the surroundings, nay, the very atmosphere they breathe will be Catholic; and yet there is no complaint nor religious difficulty." The only dissentient in the meeting was a teacher of a Wesleyan school at Derby. He thought teachers were not the best witnesses in the matter, for parents did not like to put their children at a disadvantage by complaining about religious instruction to the master of a school. He contended that there must be a religious difficulty, because so great an agitation as that now going on could not rest upon nothing. The Rev. Mr. Capel said he thought the inspector occupied the position of protector of the rights of Dissenting parents, and he had never failed in cases where he found there was any hardship—as, for instance, where a clergyman required the children attending a day school to go to his Sunday school as well—to use his influence to dissuade the clergyman from making such demands, and even to represent to him that if he persisted he would endanger his grant. The resolutions passed by the conference were to this effect:—That there was practically no religious difficulty: that the schoolmaster was the most proper teacher of religious truth in school, and that his authority would be weakened by not teaching it; and that a time-table conscience clause was impracticable. The proceedings concluded with votes of thanks to the Education Union for calling the meeting, and to the Earl of Harrowby for presiding.

BARWISE'S BOOK.

This is the enigmatical title of Mr. H. T. Craven's new "rustic comedy," which was "tried" at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Friday and Saturday nights, having been previously submitted to the criticism of an Edinburgh audience, prior to its production in London. Birmingham is getting quite a reputation for "first night" performances of new plays; for, although it cannot be said that "Barwise's Book" was represented in the Midland capital for the first time, yet the novelty was none the less for the piece having been performed once at Edinburgh. It is properly termed a "rustic" comedy, for the whole action of the piece takes place in the rural districts of Sussex; and there is a strong endeavour on the part of the author to make the piece pastoral, if not Arcadian, in its simplicity. The comedy is more remarkable for the opportunity it affords Mr. Sothern of developing a new phase of character than for plot, of which indeed there is very little that is striking, and even less that is original. Charles Mulcraft (Mr. Sothern) is a gentlemanly swindler, who, upon the representation that he will receive a considerable sum of money on the death of his godfather, Barwise, marries a widow (Mrs. Frank Matthews), believing that she is rich. Mulcraft has jilted, without compunction, Ellen Petworth (Miss Litton), the orphan niece of old Barwise, who has bequeathed her £4,000. With Ellen, both Edwin Vere, a young artist (Mr. Crosby), and Robert Cuckfield, a village wheelwright (Mr. A. Williams), are in love; but, for reasons of his own, Mulcraft makes Ellen believe that Vere only loves her for her money, and she therefore accepts the rustic Cuckfield as her suitor, the wheelwright being already beloved by a village beauty, Kate Warbleton (Miss Lilian Harris). Vere, whose pride is hurt by Ellen's ungenerous suspicions, casts her off, and refuses all offers of assistance from his rich convict-uncle, Miles Laglot (Mr. J. C. Smith), who, newly-returned from Australia, methodically sets about revenging himself upon one Rogate, who had been old Barwise's manager, and who was the means of getting Laglot transported. The first act is nothing but a game of cross purposes; everybody is very unhappy and miserable, with the exception of Mr. and Mrs. Mulcraft, who, having deceived each other, look about for some victim to assist in placing them in the position to which they aspire.

Before the second act commences, it is sufficiently palpable that an effort will be made by Mulcraft and Rogate, by forging a will, or codicil, to secure for themselves the property which is in the possession of Ellen and (as executor) Cuckfield, the latter of whom allows Mr. and Mrs. Mulcraft to live rent free in old Barwise's house for a year. When the second act, the scene of which is laid at Chichester, begins, we see the adventurers' scheme coming to fruition. In Barwise's library is a volume of Shakespeare, of which the old man was very fond. Mulcraft asks for and is given this book, from which, as he is perusing it, falls a document which proves to be a codicil to Barwise's will, bequeathing the property to Mulcraft and Rogate. Cuckfield, who has allowed Ellen to spend her £4,000 in the interest of Vere, and who sees ruin staring him in the face, beseeches Mulcraft not to be hard upon him, and the latter, with well-simulated sincerity, consents to take £2,000 in bills of Cuckfield, and destroy the codicil which he and his confederate Rogate have forged. The document is thrown into the fire, but taken from the flames, unseen, by Kate; Laglot appearing just then is the means of defeating the scheme to deprive Cuckfield of his house and land, and Ellen of her money; and the piece ends with the reconciliation of the two pairs of lovers, Ellen and Vere, and Cuckfield and Kate, and the repentance of Mr. and Mrs. Mulcraft and Rogate.

That the plot is rather uninteresting we need not repeat. The absence of originality of treatment is atoned for by the character-painting of Mr. Sothern, Mrs. Matthews, and Mr. Marcus Elmore, to whose exertions we chiefly attribute the favourable reception given to the piece, which is not devoid of that crisp dialogue of which Mr. Robertson is so complete a master. Mr. Sothern's impersonation of the gentlemanly swindler is another example of that gentleman's wonderful powers; his make-up was faultless; and his vivacity and general spiritedness as delightful as ever. To Mrs. Matthews we must award a like compliment. She is unequalled in the delineation of such parts as Mrs. Mulcraft, and retains all her wonted intelligence and humour. Mr. Marcus Elmore as the sanctimonious, unctuous scamp Rogate, is to be congratulated upon the creation of another of those characters which stand distinctly aloof from ordinary stage-embodiments. His impersonation had about it the mark of true artistic talent. We regret that we can say nothing favourable of the other ladies and gentlemen engaged in the piece. Mr. A. Williams was not well suited with his part, and in other respects the piece was not happily cast. There was a general call at the fall of the curtain. Mr. Sothern, in a brief address, asked if he might inform the author that the piece was successful, and met with an affirmative response. Mr. Sothern took the opportunity of publicly thanking Mr. Simpson for the excellent manner in which he had put the piece on the stage; and announced that he would reappear at Birmingham in November.

The performances on Saturday were for the benefit of Mr. Sothern, who also appeared in "A Regular Fix."

The village of Broadclyst, near Exeter, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday. Fifty-nine thatched houses were burnt.

Hengler's Circus at Birmingham.—The chief attraction at the Circus at Curzon Hall is the wrestling contest, in which French and English champions are engaged. On Wednesday next there will be a grand Masonic gathering. Lord Leigh, P.G.M., and Colonel Machen, D.P.G.M., will patronise the performances. On Friday Miss Jenny Louise Hengler will take her benefit, under the patronage of Mr. Muntz, M.P., and Mr. Dixon, M.P. Miss Hengler has deservedly become a great favourite in Birmingham, and we hope to see a crowded house on the occasion of her benefit. The circus remains open a fortnight longer.

THE GOSSIP.

The daughter of a Northern clergyman is a leader-writer for a London daily paper.

Dr. George Macdonald is preparing to make a venture in dramatic poetry.

Mdlle. Christine Nilsson will make her *début* at Drury-lane Theatre on the 5th of May, as Alice in "Robert le Diable."

Mdlle. Nilsson is going to America, at a salary of £400 per night. On her return next year she will be married.

Mr. Trollope, son of Mr. Anthony Trollope, is now a partner in the publishing firm of Chapman and Hall.

Miss Broughton, the author of "Cometh Up as a Flower," and other novels, is the daughter of a Cheshire clergyman.

Mr. Edward M. Thayer, whose death is announced from New York, was at one time an acter of great reputation. He was considered the best representative of a fop on the American stage.

Mr. W. S. Gilbert is preparing for the Haymarket Theatre a comedy in three acts. The same author will produce shortly a fairy extravaganza at the Charing-cross Theatre.

The report of Mr. Webster having leased the Adelphi and Princess's Theatres to Mr. Boucicault is untrue. Mr. Webster has, it is said, no intention of leasing either theatre to Mr. Boucicault.

It is now definitely announced by the German appers that "Janus" is not the work of Dr. Döllinger, but of Professor Huber, who has been long known in Munich as a strong opponent to Papal claims.

M. Emile Ollivier makes his appearance on official occasions in a simple black coat, without either riband or star, instead of in Court uniform, and recently he was remarked in a box at the opera which he had paid for.

Mr. Robertson's new piece "M.P.," which was produced at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, London, on Saturday night, is a great success. The author was too ill to be present, and Miss Marie Wilton kept him *au courant* of the progress of the piece after every act.

The *Musical Standard* says that Madame Pauline Lucca has, at the instance of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, visited Gotha, to appear at the Court Theatre in the "Mignon" of Ambroise Thomas. The invitation of the duke was accompanied by a gold medal and "cross of merit."

Madlle. X——, of the Follies Dramatiques, has just lost her mother, in New York. She appeared at rehearsal in a rose-coloured dress. "Not in mourning!" exclaimed a friend. The reply was smart, and full of heart:—"You know one does not put on mourning for distant relatives."

The *Court Journal's* "Bulletin of the Theatres" for last week runs as follows:—"There has been a considerable amount of business done at most of the theatres, and several pieces new to a London audience have been produced, yet we may refer our readers for any criticism they may require to the French papers of a long past date."

Signor Mario, who was to have made his first appearance for the season on Tuesday night, as the Duke in "Un Ballo in Maschera," was incapacitated by a sudden attack of hoarseness from singing. Instead of the opera originally announced, "Il Flauto Magico" was performed, with Mdlle. Titiens, Mdlle. Sessi, Signor Cotogni, Dr. Gunz, &c., in the principal parts.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* has been published under extraordinary difficulties. Information was lately received at the Home Office that the Fenians, resenting the articles in the *Pall Mall Gazette* in favour of the Coercion Bill, had determined to destroy the premises on which that journal is printed. Since then the police have thought it necessary to guard the office on all sides. Fourteen or fifteen constables have been employed in this duty.

American newspaper statistics give no less than 5,244 as the total number of journals, of which 542 are daily, 4,425 weekly, and 27 monthly. New York publishes the largest number—namely, 675, of which 77 are dailies; and Arizona the smallest number—namely, 2. Pennsylvania stands next to the Empire State, and prints 495 papers, of which 49 are dailies. Illinois has 415; Ohio, 377; Indiana, 269; Missouri, 240; Iowa, 228; and Massachusetts only 219. Among the Californian daily papers is an illustrated one, the engravings of which are produced from zinc blocks acted upon with acid.—*S. Low's Monthly Bulletin.*

Mr. W. J. Prowse, a well-known journalist, has just died. Some interesting particulars of his life are given in the *South London Chronicle*. He first joined the press as one of the staff of the *Daily Telegraph*, and remained connected with that journal to the end. Apart from the paper he did little, but that little was admirable in quality. That best known would probably be the "Nicholas" articles, contributed to the *Comic News* in the first instance, and subsequently continued in *Fun*, at the request of Mr. Tom Hood, his oldest and most attached friend. We are glad to hear that there is a probability of these "Nicholas" papers being collected and published in a volume, with additions in the way of poems—and Mr. Prowse was an exquisitely tender verse writer—and such papers as may be selected for preservation, He died of severe pulmonary affection, a residence at Nice having failed to cure him.

THE GUERRERO GOLD MINING COMPANY.

It will be seen by a notice in another part of this week's paper that the directors of the Guerrero Gold Mining Company, Limited, having received from their superintendent, Mr. J. H. Petherick, the most satisfactory reports of the richness of their property, have determined upon issuing the remaining shares to complete the authorised capital, which can all be profitably employed. Their grant is not a mere mine, but an immense mining district, larger than the whole area wrought upon for gold in the colony of Victoria, which, as stated by Mr. A. B. Smythe, the colonial Government Secretary for mines, has been worked by 2,741 companies, with a total subscribed capital of £24,431,205, giving employment to nearly 80,000 miners, and which, from its discovery in 1851, up to 1868, had yielded gold to the value of £147,342,767 sterling, and is still returning about £6,000,000 per annum. It further appears, from Mr. Petherick's report, that the Guerrero Company's property resembles the richer parts of the Ovens Diggings in Victoria, and those of Braidwood and Aralurn in New South Wales (with both of which he is practically acquainted), that the whole is in virgin ground, that the great range of auriferous alluvial soil is almost untouched; and that its average yield is so large, as, by the improved methods of extracting gold from such deposits now practised, will yield an enormous profit. In fact, as the Company's grant is one of such immense extent, and affords abundance of rich ground for hundreds of subsidiary companies, each of which would have to pay a royalty on their gross produce, it is impossible to fix a limit to the Guerrero Company's profits, which in due time may, and most probably will, be something enormous.

SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHDAY.

Saturday last being the anniversary of the birthday of Shakespeare, there was the usual gathering at the Royal Hotel, Birmingham; Mr. Samuel Timmins presiding in the absence of the president, Mr. George Dawson. The usual programme of toasts was pleasantly varied in form, although all the usual toasts were included under the "memories" proposed of Shakespeare's contemporaries—English and Foreign too—all being names "familiar in our mouths as household words," and on such an occasion "freshly remembered" by all.—"Queen Elizabeth," proposed by the Chairman, represented our monarchy past and present.—"Richard Hooker" and "George Herbert," proposed by Mr. J. Thackray Bunce, represented the great church controversialist and the church's sweetest poet,—"The Immortal Memory of William Shakespeare" was proposed by the Chairman, who regretted that the ill-health of Mr. George Dawson prevented him proposing for the fifteenth time, in his eloquent and brilliant words, the memory of our greatest poet, and hoping that at the next anniversary Mr. Dawson would take his honoured place again with renewed and permanent health. He felt himself like the one who follows "after a well-graced actor leaves the stage," and feared his prattle would be tedious, but in the absence of the chief he felt it his duty to do his best, however little and feeble that best might be. After briefly reviewing the number and variety of Shakespeare's creations, their perfect individuality, their admirable setting, their reality of life, however ideal they might be, after briefly noting that because Shakespeare was a dramatist, dealing only with the unchanging facts of a human mind and life, and showing that therefore in the words of the motto to the toast, "'Gainst death and all oblivious enmity he must pace forth," and that his "praise must still find room even in the eyes of all posterity," the memory of Shakespeare was duly honoured. "Francis Bacon," as the lord, the lawyer, and the philosopher, was proposed by Mr. Francis Adams. "Galileo Galilei," as a learned astronomer, by Mr. W. Mathews, jun. "Michael Angelo," painter, sculptor, engineer, poet, and architect, by Mr. J. H. Chamberlain; "Philip Sydney," the "courtiers', scholars', soldiers' eye-tongued sword," by Mr. William Harris; "Walter Raleigh and Francis Drake," by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain; "Edmund Spencer," by Mr. C. E. Mathews; "Miguel Cervantes," by Mr. R. F. Martineau; and "Ben Johson," by Dr. Langford; all in speeches of remarkable appositeness and excellence, in connection with the Shakespearean mottoes appended to each "toast" or "memory." "The better health of Mr. George Dawson," was proposed by the Chairman, and was honoured by a most hearty response; and "The Health of the Chairman" was proposed by Mr. G. F. Johnson, and very warmly received.

In the course of the evening numerous madrigals and glees and songs "of the period" of Shakespeare were given under the direction of Mr. T. Anderton (Mus. Bac., Cantab), by the brilliant voice of Mr. H. R. Bickley, and a well-chosen and effective choir. "The Silver Swan," of Orlando Gibbons; the "Since first I saw your face," of T. Ford; the "Awake, sweet Love," of Shakespeare's musical friend Dowland; the "Lover and Lass," the "Light of Love," the "How merrily we live," of M. Este, were all received with great applause. Mr. Bickley's splendid singing of Dr. Arne's "Soft Flowing Avon," and the great love song of Ben Jonson, "Drink to Me only with Thine Eyes," arranged by Mr. Anderton as a quartet, were honoured with loud appreciation and applause. The dinner was served *á la russe* by Mr. Lovegrove in excellent style.

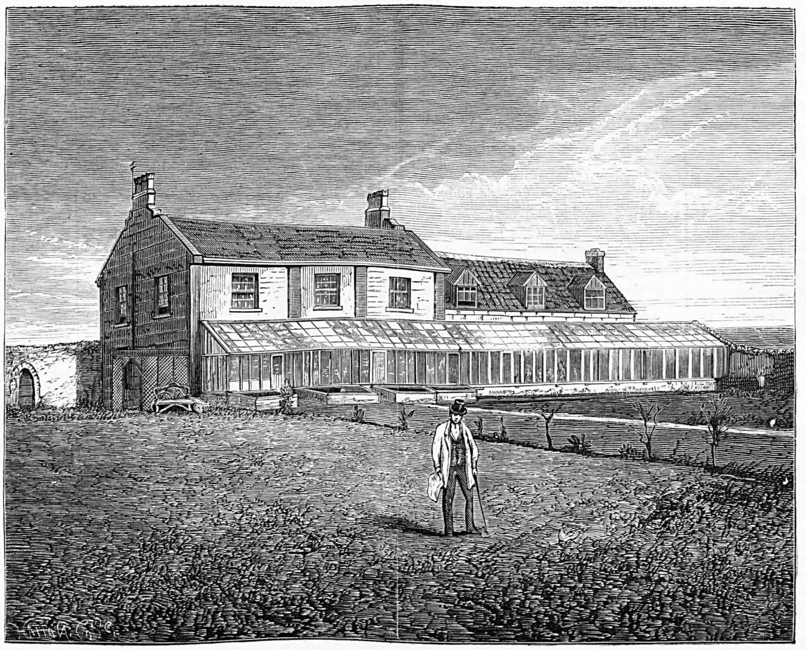
On the same day the annual meeting of the subscribers of the Shakespeare Memorial Library was held at the Library Room, Mr. W. Harris presiding in Mr. Dawson's absence.

Mr. Samuel Timmins read the report, from which we make the following extract:—

> The donations of books have been numerous during the year, a list thereof is appended to this report. Some idea may be formed of the interest felt in the Shakespeare Library by the presentation of five handsome volumes of a Polish translation of the plays, by M. Josef Poznanski, of Warsaw; by the gift of an excellent bust of Shakespeare, carved from a fragment of Herne's Oak, in Windsor Forest, and accompanied by a volume on the history of Herne's Oak, appropriately bound in oak from the same tree, presented by Mr. William Bragge, C.E., of Sheffield; and also by the presentation of a portrait of Shakespeare, which has just been received from Mr. Joseph Lilly, the eminent Shakespearean bookseller, of Garrick-street, London.

The total contents of the Shakespeare Library at Birmingham are thus described:—

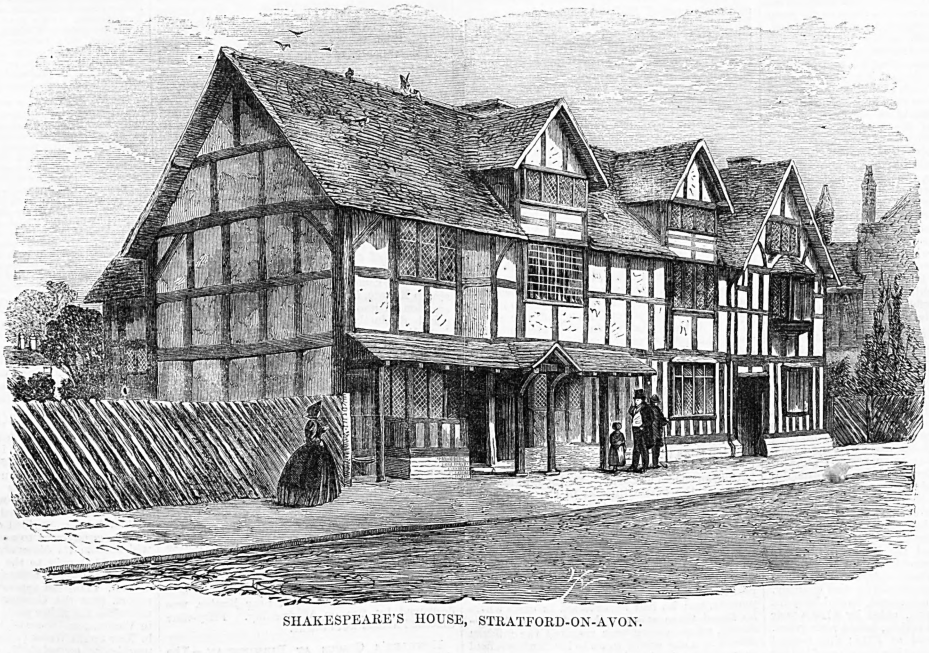
	Edits.	Vols.	Total
English editions of Shakespeare's works	126	829	
,, separate Plays and Poems ...	—	197	
,, Shakespeariana	—	695	—1721
French editions of Shakespeare's works	5	37	
,, separate Plays and Poems ...	—	29	
,, Shakespeariana	—	57	—123
German editions of Shakespeare's works	13	144	
,, separate Plays and Poems ...	—	48	
,, Shakespeariana	—	376	—568
Italian editions of Shakespeare's works...	3	24	
,, separate Plays and Poems ...	—	8	
,, Shakespeariana	—	7	— 39
Bohemian editions of Shakespeare's works...	1	25	25
Frissian separate Plays and Poems ...	—	2	2
Danish editions of Shakespeare's works	1	13	13
Dutch separate Plays and Poems	—	7	
,, Shakespeariana	—	3	— 10
Hungarian editions of Shakespeare's works...	1	12	12
Polish editions of Shakespeare's works	2	5	5
Spanish separate Plays and Poems ...	—	1	
,, Shakespeariana	—	1	— 2
Swedish editions of Shakespeare's works	1	12	
,, separate Plays and Poems ...	—	3	
,, Shakespeariana	—	3	— 18
Welsh separate Plays and Poems	—	1	1
			2540



CONVALESCENT HOME AT WESTON-SUPER-MARE. (*See page* 567.)

A Fever-stricken Town. During the past week Dr. Buchanan, a Government inspector sent down by the Medical Department of the Privy Council, has been engaged in making a sanitary inspection of the town of Whitehaven. Attention had been directed to the high rate of mortality in the town, and inquiry showed that during the last four months there had been, out of a population of 19,000 people, between 360 and 370 cases of typhus fever, and one patient out of every six had died. The medical officer of the Local Board of Trustees, on being called upon to report on this sad state of affairs, attributed the frequent occurrence of fever at Whitehaven to overcrowding and defective drainage. Out of 4,538 inhabited houses, 2,500 had no drainage except the surface. He stated that he had urged upon the Board the absolute necessity of enforcing a proper and efficient system of household drainage; some of his suggestions had been adopted, and some had not. On Tuesday Dr. Buchanan arrived at Whitehaven, and commenced a personal inspection of the town, which occupied him three or four days. The effect produced upon his mind by this inspection was that, after he had been in the town a few hours, he telegraphed to the Privy Council that Whitehaven, infected and overcrowded, was not a fit place for the Cumberland Militia to assemble in for their annual periodical training. In ordinary course the Militia, mustering, with the "camp followers," a thousand strong, would have assembled at Whitehaven this week, but the Adjutant, Captain Morris Fawcett, has, by order of the Secretary for War, issued a notice countermanding the former summons, and announcing that the Cumberland Militia are not to assemble this year. They will, however, receive their usual bounty.

Incendiary Fire near Leicester.—On Saturday evening a serious incendiary fire occurred on the farm premises of Mr. G. Hobson, at Great Glenn, near Leicester. The fire engines were on the spot as early as practicable; but the fire was not got under until considerable damage had been done. A large haystack, a beanstack, two barns, a hovel, several stables, and other outhouses used as calf-houses and piggeries, besides a winnowing and threshing and other farming implements, were wholly consumed, the homestead narrowly escaping the flames. The damage is estimated at £2,000. It is not known who set fire to the premises, but suspicion points to an imbecile man living in the neighbourhood, who is supposed to have committed a somewhat similar act about a year ago.



SHAKESPEARE'S HOUSE, STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

BAILY, THE SCULPTOR.

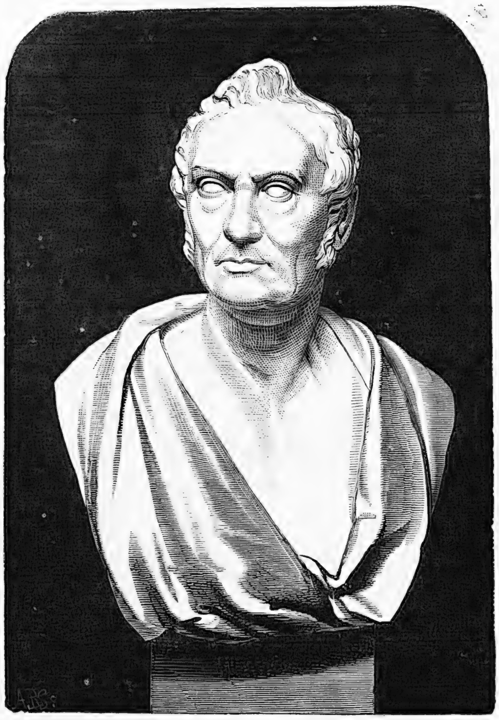
Edward Hodges Baily, R.A., was born at Bristol in March, 1788, and died in 1867. His father, a ship carver, was a man of great artistic power. At the age of twenty-five, after studying under Flaxman, young Baily surprised and delighted everybody by his "Eve at the Fountain," a statue of world-wide reputation for unrivalled grace and beauty, and which is now in the Institution in his native city. Quitting the studio of Flaxman at the end of his seventh year of service, Mr. Baily accepted the post of Chief Modeller to the great firm of Rundell and Bridge, who were accustomed to seek for designs and models from the first sculptors and painters of that time. "Hercules casting Lycas into the Sea," "Apollo discharging his Arrows," and Maternal Love," executed for the late Mr. J. Neeld, M.P. for Chippenham, were next in succession from his hand. Mr. Baily was afterwards employed with other sculptors in executing the figures on the Marble Arch and the "Triumph of Britannia," together with the statues on the summit of the edifice. He likewise sculptured the *bassi-relievi* that surround the Throne-room at Buckingham Palace. His other works of that period were statues to the memory of Lord Egremont, Mr. Telford, the engineer, Sir Astley Cooper, Sir Richard Bourke, Dean H. Dawson, Doctor Butler, Earl Grey, at Newcastle, the Duke of Sussex, for Freemason's Hall, a monument to Lord Holland in Westminster Abbey, and a design for the Nelson monument, which for want of funds has never been carried out. The colossal statue of Nelson which surmounts the Corinthian column in Trafalgar Square is also from his hand. His best works are said to be "Eve listening to the Voice," a companion to his "Eve at the Fountain," "The Graces," "The Fatigued Huntsmen," "The Sleeping Nymph" (in the possession of Lord Monteagle), and a colossal statue of Sir Robert Peel for Bury, Lancashire.

The bust of the deceased sculptor was presented to the Bristol Institution for the Advancement of Science, Literature, and the Arts, by Mr. R. A. Kinglake, of Weston-super-Mare. At the annual general meeting of the Institution, held on the 10th of February last, the Mayor of Bristol in the chair, it was moved by the Rev. James Heyworth, M.A., seconded by the Rev. Canon Knight, and carried unanimously, "That having been informed that R. A. Kinglake, Esq., has offered to the Institution a bust of the late eminent sculptor Baily, executed by his grandson, and that Mr. Kinglake and several other gentlemen have contributed towards the purchase of the bust for this purpose, this meeting gratefully accepts the gift, and hereby expresses its cordial thanks to Mr. Kinglake and the other donors for their kindness and liberality."

On the bust is the following inscription:—"Edwd. H. Baily, born in the City of Bristol, March 10, 1788; died May 22, 1867. The sculptor of 'Eve at the Fountain,' a work unrivalled in its combination of grace and beauty, and a monument of his imperishable genius."

Amongst the other busts and memorials from Mr. Papworth's chisel may be mentioned those of Lord Palmerston, the Duke of Wellington, Richard Cobden, Dr. Young (the decipherer of the Egyptian Hieroglyphics), Ald. Livesy, the Chief Justice of Ceylon, Sir S. Creasy, Mr. J. A. Roebuck, Mr. Justice Mellor, Dr. Lyon Playfair, Dr. Taylor (of University Hall), the late Bishop of Peterboro', Deans Liddell, Alford, and Elliott, Canons Girdlestone and Stowel, Charles Kean, John Penn (the engineer), besides others equally well known, both in the Houses of Parliament and in the world of science and art.

Mr. Papworth's latest poetical work, "Paradise Regained," is the property of Sir J. Brown, of Sheffield; and the principal work he is now engaged upon is a series of allegorical groups for the external decoration of the Royal Manchester Exchange, now in course of erection, illustrating the principal towns of Lancashire and the nationalities of the world.



THE LATE E. H. BAILY, SCULPTOR OF "EVE AT THE FOUNTAIN."

The overdue Inman steamer, City of Brussels, reached Liverpool on Friday night.

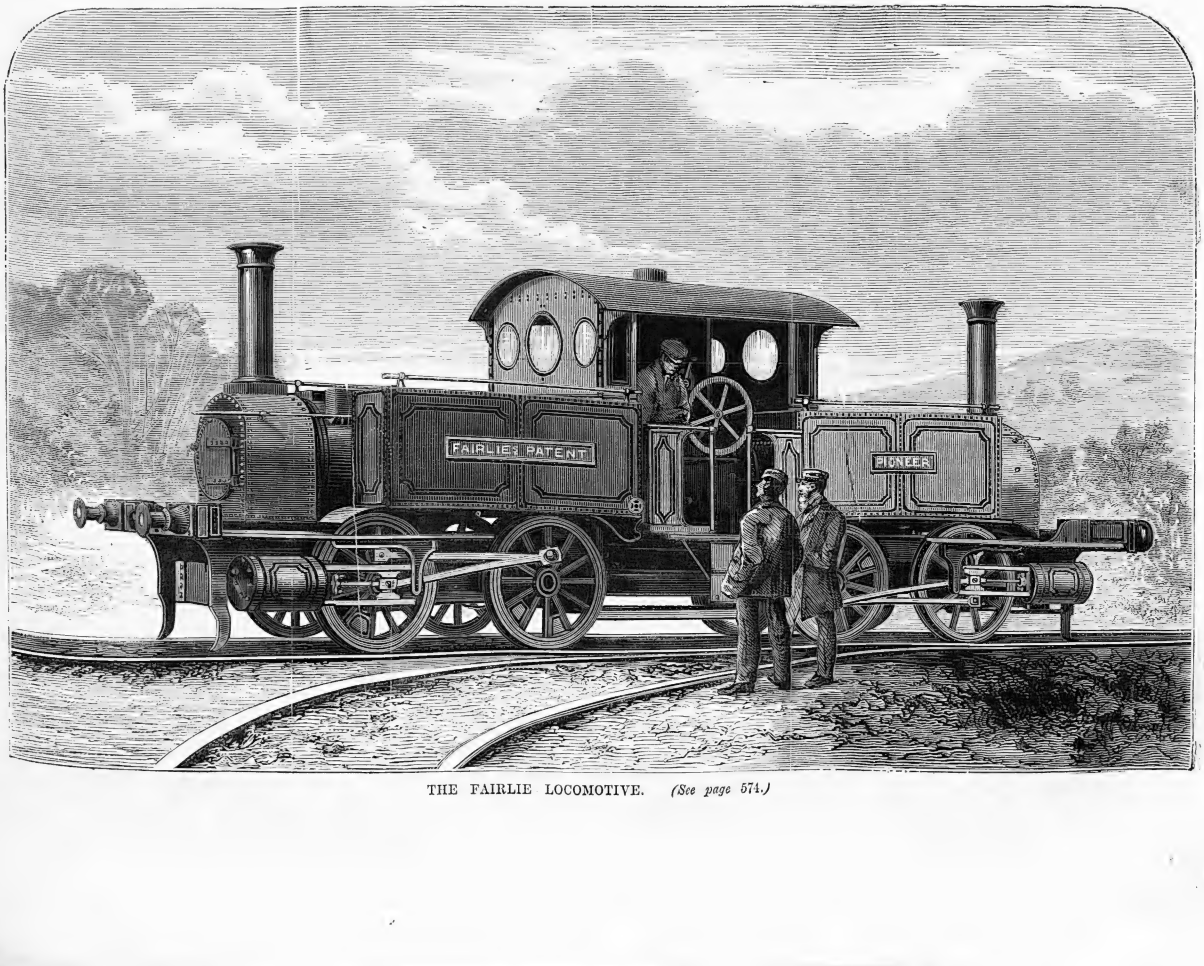
MODERN POETRY.

The Hon. Auberon Herbert has been lecturing at Nottingham on "The Uses of Modern Poetry." Putting the question, "What is modern poetry?" he answered that it had been well defined by Mr. Mill—the really passionate, the really tender, the really influencing part of modern poetry in which we overhear the poet speaking out of the depths of his own heart, and this being so, we must always have a reverence for true poetry. What are the uses of modern poetry? A person who had cultivated the uses of poetry was able to transport right away from the common haunts and community of men. This was one of the simplest uses of poetry. The second was that it took men away from the busy throngs of cities into the country where they could learn to watch and love the ways of nature. In Nottingham there is an excellent school of art, and if he was speaking to any who had attended it, or who knew anything of art, they would be aware that all attempts on their part to improve in art were perfectly useless if they contented themselves with what had been done by others instead of going straight to nature themselves, and trying to bring their minds and spirits into communion with her. (Cheers.) This was what poetry helped us to do. Be he a poor man or be he a rich man, nature's lessons and teachings were equally open to him, and if he could venture to advise them as the long summer evenings came on, he would say go away as far as you can from the city, take in your hand some manual of natural history, learn what you can of the laws by which nature works, but also take in your pocket a Ruskin, a Tennyson, a Browning, or a Buchanan, in order that you may not simply be learning the letter of nature's book, but that you may enter into the spirit of her work, and penetrate into those meanings which lie buried one beneath another in her midst. (Cheers.)

A Protestant church at Abington, county Limerick, was entered on Sunday night, and everything ornamental in the building was either broken up or seriously damaged.

A Relic of the "City of Boston."—A thin slip of wood, three feet long, painted blue, was picked up at Perran Porth, on the north coast of Cornwall, on Sunday, and in large letters cut in wood was written, "City of Boston is sinking. February 11th." Another sentence commencing with the letter "M." appears to have been begun, but the board is unfortunately broken off.

A Swedish School-room.—We are informed that M. Fahnehjelm, the Swedish Commissioner for the forthcoming series of Annual International Exhibitions, has applied for permission to exhibit a full-sized model of a school-rooom, just as it exists in the country parishes in Sweden, with all the books, maps, apparatus, forms, desks, &c., in order to give a complete idea of the Swedish system of elementary instruction. Her Majesty's Commissioners will, there can be no doubt, gladly place a sufficient space at the disposal of the Swedish Commissioners for so interesting an exhibit. It is to be hoped that encouragement will be given to other countries to follow this excellent example. An easy comparison of international appliances for educational purposes would be most useful to visitors to the exhibition, and would be beneficial and stimulating to the countries exhibiting.



THE FAIRLIE LOCOMOTIVE. *(See page 574.)*

THE A.B.C. OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.

BEING A COMPLETE PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE ORNAMENTAL ART OF THE WORLD IN ALL AGES.

EGYPTIAN ORNAMENT.

We have already alluded to the fact that some particular meaning is expressed in all Egyptian ornament, of which symbolism is indeed the very essence. Bearing in mind the special attributes assigned to the different objects represented, the symbolical teaching of the most trifling design or pattern is at once apparent, and its intention easily understood. Thus the lotus was regarded as typical of the creation of the world from water, and was considered a national emblem of the Nile. It was sacred to Osiris and Isis, the most remarkable personages in the Egyptian Pantheon and more highly reverenced than any of the other gods. The papyrus reed, with its plume of leaves and flowers, indicated learning. The asp or viper was sacred to the god Num, to whom was ascribed the creation of both men and divinities, and of the material universe. A figure frequently used is that of the ibis, a genus of birds found more particularly in warm climates, of which the *ibis religiosa*, so called by Cuvier, from its being held sacred by the Egyptians, is the most remarkable species. This was dedicated to Thoth, the god of letters, whose usual form is that of a man having the head of an ibis often bearing the crescent of the moon. Thoth presided over science, art, and every mental pursuit. Other birds were consecrated to the gods, as for instance the heron to Osiris, the hawk to Ra, worshipped as the sun, and the vulture to the goddess Seben. The sphinx was a representative of the king, and may be considered, when it combines the head of a man and the body of a lion, as the union of intellect and physical force. It is not to be confused with the Grecian sphinx, which has the head and breasts of a woman, the body of a dog, the tail of a serpent, the wings of a bird, the paws of a lion, and a human voice, and was chosen as a symbol by the Greeks on account of the obscurity of its mysteries.

Of the animals considered sacred by the Egyptians, the goat was assigned to the god called Mendes; the jackal to Anubis, the jackal-headed god who was supposed to weigh the souls of the departed, and to preside over embalming and funereal rites. In the religion of ancient Egypt man was held to be accountable hereafter for his actions done in this life. He was to be brought before Osiris and his heart weighed against the feather of truth, hence the frequent introduction of this figure in the style of ornament under consideration. Again, Horus, an offspring of Osiris and Isis, was represented as being hawk-headed, and seated on a lotus flower. The story of Osiris is interesting, teaching as it does the doctrine of the conflict between moral good and evil, and bearing unmistakable analogy to some prophecy of the remotest times respecting the future Saviour of mankind. "Osiris is related to have been on earth instructing mankind in useful arts, to have been slain by his adversary Typhon, by whom he was cut in pieces; to have been bewailed by his wife and sister; Isis, to have been embalmed, to have risen again, and to have become the judge of the dead."

Osiris is usually represented as a mummied figure, holding the crook and flail, and wearing the crown of Egypt, generally with an ostrich feather on each side.

Typhon, called by the Egyptians Seth, is shown as having the head of a fabulous animal with a long snout and high square ears, and is the personification of physical evil.

The only representative of moral evil is that of a serpent called Apep. Moral evil being personified by a serpent affords another link to the argument that much primeval revelation was retained, more or less distorted by the ancient Egyptians, at the period referred to, 2,000 years before the present era. By this brief explanation of some of the forms most frequently used, the intention of many of the accompanying illustrations will be intelligible. For a more elaborate account of the Egyptian symbols, the reader is referred to the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, and to Sir Gardner Wilkinson's erudite works upon ancient and modern Egypt. In colouring, the bright green of their native fields, the reddish brown or dull green tinge of the Nile, the tints of the yellow rocks and deep blue of the sky evidently influenced the artists of the Egyptian school of ornament. These are the colours they principally used without shade or shadow (yet still conveying to the mind the identity of the object it was intended to represent), black is also often introduced, but other colours are seldom seen except in combination with gold, silver, and precious stones. It is worthy of remark that the camel is never shown either in painting or sculpture by the Egyptians, although the animal itself must have been a familiar object at all times in the East. Such an omission can only be accounted for by the figure having no symbolical signification.

While lost in wonder at the indisputable indications of the civilisation of Egypt in former ages, the most enthusiastic antiquarian must, in many instances, be disappointed at the evident shortcomings or stolidity of its ancient inhabitants. They were acquainted with the manufacture of glass, but failed to apply the substance to any of those purposes for which it is most serviceable. Windows in the houses of the rich were made of talc; in the dwellings of the humbler classes of linen, horn, or paper; cups were made of porcelain, wood, or bronze; mirrors of highly-polished metal; and lamps and lanterns of the same materials. Nevertheless, according to the authority of Winkelmann, "the ancients carried the art of glass making to a higher degree of perfection than ourselves." And that which more nearly concerns our present subject is the anomalous condition of art in ancient Egypt. To quote Sir Gardner Wilkinson, the Egyptians were deficient in conception, and, above all, in a proper knowledge of grouping; they were unable to form those combinations which give true expression; every picture was made up of isolated parts, put together according to some general notions, but without harmony or preconceived effect. The human face, the whole body, and everything they introduced, were composed of separate members placed together in the same manner, according to their relative situations: the eye, the nose, and other features composed a face, but the expression of feelings and passions was entirely wanting; and the countenance of the king, whether charging an enemy's phalanx in the heat of battle, or peacably offering incense in a sombre temple, presented the same outline and the same inanimate look. The peculiarity of the front view of an eye introduced in a profile is thus accounted for: it has the ordinary representation of that feature added to a profile, and no allowance was made for any change in the position of the head.

And the same with drapery: the figure was first drawn, if such forms as are represented can be called drawing, and the drapery then added, not as part of the whole, but as an accessory. The Egyptians, in fact, had no knowledge of perspective either in drawing or sculpture. Certainly, as Madame de Stael remarks, they represent animals more truthfully and with greater vigour than the human figure, but the difference is so slight as to be hardly observable, while the general inferiority in artistic workmanship is surprising considering the excellence displayed in their architecture and, as we have endeavoured to show, their style of ornamental design.

(To be continued.)

THE FAIRLIE LOCOMOTIVE.

We this week give an illustration of a locomotive built on the "Fairlie" principle, which has of late excited great attention, and has been favourably brought before the public by the *Times* and other leading journals.

When the system was first patented in the year 1864 by Mr. R. Fairlie, and a pamphlet was shortly afterwards written on the subject by him, he was considered by most *practical* engineers as a fit subject for a suburban retreat on the Great Western line, *i.e.*, Hanwell.

The first engine built on this principle (during Mr. Fairlie's absence in South America) was so badly constructed as at first to cause a serious *contretemps* to the system. This, together with the opposition shown by those from whom it might have been expected a matter of such importance would have received every encouragement, was sufficient to have daunted a man of less indomitable pluck than Mr. Fairlie, who, however, after expending a fortune in proving over and over again the correctness of his theory, has at last so entirely overcome the opposition of most of those who formerly were so antagonistic to it that the locomotive is now universally considered the "engine of the future."

The engine above illustrated is one of several being built for the Royal Swedish Railway by the "Fairlie Engine and Steam Carriage Company," at the Hatcham Iron Works. Several of these are now at work in this country, and have recently been subjected to the severest test by commissions appointed by the Russian, French, Swedish, Indian, and other Governments with the greatest success, the object being to ascertain the truth of the assertion made by Mr. Fairlie that by his system cheap surface lines of a narrow gauge (say 3 feet) can be made to carry the same amount of traffic and give the same amount of accommodation to the public as is now offered by the best 4 ft. 8½ in. gauge lines at little more than half the cost.

To prove this, exhaustive experiments were made in Wales on the Festiniog Railway, a line of only 2ft. gauge, where one of Mr. Fairlie's engines, the "Little Wonder," has been working for some time. We are not in possession of the official reports of the various commissioners, but we believe that the results fully bore out what Mr. Fairlie had asserted.

We need scarcely indicate the large field this invention will open up for railway extension, both at home and abroad, where otherwise it would have been impossible to have made railways on the old plan. It must not be understood from this that the advantages of the Fairlie system are confined solely to the narrow gauge—the system is equally applicable to any gauge. By its adoption trains of twice the ordinary length on the 4ft. 8½in. gauge may be taken, the carrying capacity of any given line being thus doubled with the same number of trains per day, with less injury to the permanent way and rolling stock than the ordinary engines, the oscillation of which at high speeds hammers the rails, sleepers, &c., completely to pieces, and which are equally destructive to themselves This oscillation is entirely avoided in the Fairlie principle by its peculiar construction, while that costly incumbrance, the tender, is entirely dispensed with, the fuel and water being carried on the engine.

In conclusion, we may say that no invention, since the first introduction of the locomotive by Stephenson, seems more likely, in our opinion, to prove of greater benefit to the public at large than the one we have the pleasure this week to lay before our readers. We shall watch its progress with interest, and Mr. Fairlie has our best wishes for its success.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

Domestic Yeast.—Ladies who are in the habit (and a most laudable and comfortable habit it is) of making domestic bread, cake, &c., are informed that they can easily manufacture their own yeast by attending to the following directions:—Boil one pound of good flour, a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, and a little salt, in two gallons of water, for one hour. When milk warm, bottle it, and cork it close. It will be fit for use in twenty-four hours. One pint of this yeast will make eighteen pounds of bread.

To Extract Grease Spots from Books or Paper.—Gently warm the greased or spotted part of the book or paper, and then press upon it pieces of blotting-paper, one after another, so as to absorb as much of the grease as possible. Have ready some fine clear essential oil of turpentine heated almost to a boiling state, warm the greased leaf a little, and then, with a soft clean brush, apply the heated turpentine to both sides of the spotted part. By repeating this application, the grease will be extracted. Lastly, with another brush dipped in rectified spirit of wine, go over the place, and the grease will no longer appear, neither will the paper be discoloured.

Food in Season in May.—*Fish.*—Brill, carp, chub, cod, conger-eels, *crabs*, cray-fish, dabbs, dace, dory, eels, flounders, gurnets, haddock, halibut, herring, ling, *lobsters*, mackarel, mullet, perch, pike, plaice, *prawns*, *salmon*, shrimps, *skate*, smelts, soles, sturgeon, tench, trout, turbots, whitings. *Meat.*—Beef, grass-lamb, house-lamb, mutton, pork, veal. *Poultry and Game.*—Chickens, ducklings, fowls, green geese, leverets, pigeons, pullets, rabbits, wood-pigeons. *Vegetables.*—Angelica, artichokes, asparagus, balm, kidney-beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflowers, chervil, cucumbers, fennel, herbs of all sorts, lettuce, mint, onions, parsley, peas, new potatoes, purslane, radishes, rhubarb, salad of all sorts, sea-kale, sorrel, spinach, thyme, turnips. *Fruit.*—Apples: John Apple, golden russet, winter russet. May-duke cherries; currants; gooseberries; melons. Pears: L'amozette, winter green scarlet strawberries. Forced: Apricots, nutmeg peaches, strawberries.

Omelettes and Custards.—*Cheese Omelette.*—If an omelette is merely to serve as a side-dish or *slight* addition to a dinner, an egg and a half for each person will be enough; but if it is to be the main-stay—perhaps the only hot dish, as at breakfast or luncheon—two eggs per head will not be too large an allowance. Take white or yellow cheese in preference, and grate or chop it fine. The quantity will depend on the strength of its flavour. Better put in too little than too much, in order to keep the omelette *delicate.* Chop fine a leaf or two of parsley, and, if you have it, one of chervil. Break your eggs into a bowl, beat them well together with a fork, but not too much or to a froth. Mix in your chopped-up cheese and herbs with a pinch of salt and the slightest dust of pepper. Your frying-pan (an earthen one does well for omelettes) being ready, with a good lump of butter melted in it, give a final stir to your beaten eggs, to mix all equally, before pouring into the pan. As it fries keep shaking it, raising the edges all round with your slice. When the upper surface is nearly set, fold the omelette in two, making it nearly the shape of an apple turnover. After half a minute, turn it; and after another half minute serve on a hot dish. Omelettes should never be overdone, but should be juicy and only semi-solid in the middle. This omelette resembles in flavour the old-fashioned dish called rammakins or ramequins (a descendant of the still more ancient Welsh rabbit), but is lighter and gives less trouble. It may be presented at the same complacent moment—*i.e.*, towards the close of a pleasant dinner.—*Cassell's Household Guide.*

Note on Early Spring Flowers.—Notwithstanding the long and trying winter we have had, early spring flowers are by no means scarce with those who know how to manage them. This season has proved, in spite of hard frost and keen north-easterly winds up to the 15th of March—such weather, in fact, as few men remember—that in warm nooks and corners there are spring flowers at this early date. Even those in less favourable situations have gone through the winter unscathed, with one exception, and that is the old and well-known Saponaria calabrica. I have lost a few plants, but quite two-thirds of those put out are still living. The seed was sown the first week in September, and the plants transferred to the flower-beds late in October. The most showy plant in flower at this date is the white Arabis, which is fully out. Pulmonaria angustifolia, in a long line next to the Alyssum, is bristling with its flowers—when these open, they are of a pink colour, which changes to purple; but the brightest gem of all here is the beautiful Aubrietia deltoidea, for every plant is solid with its purple flowers. For continuous flowering this is the best of all the Aubrietias, and no frost or snow will prevent its flowering after a couple of mild days. Aubrietia purpurea is of a neater habit in growth, but it does not flower so early or remain in flower so long. Another real gem for early flowering is Anemone fulgens, but it requires a warm corner, and must not be disturbed. It is certainly the brightest and the most beautiful of all the hardy spring flowers; the brightness of its scarlet flowers is almost equal to any of our best scarlet geraniums, yet is rarely to be seen. When planted under trees or against high walls the foot-stalks of the flowers become drawn, and then they sway to and tro with the wind, and the flowers get injured. Owing to its flowering so early, I have not been able to obtain seed from it, and as the roots increase so slowly I have not been able to work up such a large stock as I should wish. The Polyanthus and Double Daisies in the beds are only waiting for a few warm days to expand their flowers. The herbaceous borders will be cheerful in a day or two, provided there are no more cold winds and frost. There are already in full bloom Erica herbacea, Hepaticas, and Crocuses, the white Arabis, the Aubrietias. Amongst other early subjects that only require a little warm weather to enable them to expand their flowers, I may mention the Anemone alpina, Iberis sempervirens, Polyanthuses, and Narcissus in variety.—J. C. Clarke, in *Gardener's Magazine.*

LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

NEW TRIAL.

In the Court of Common Pleas on Friday, a rule for a new trial was granted in the case of Whittaker *v.* the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway. The plaintiff at the trial at Manchester obtained £1,200 damages for injuries sustained from stepping out of a carriage on to the parapet of a bridge on a dark night, believing it to be the platform.

PILE, SPENCE, AND CO. (LIMITED).

On Monday the Court of Queen's Bench was engaged in hearing an application on behalf of the Rev. Mr. Hawke, of Willingham, Lincolnshire, for a new trial in the matter of the limited liability company called Pile, Spence, and Co. The action was originally brought to recover damages in regard to statements alleged to be false and fraudulent, made by Mr. Mellor, a Manchester manufacturer, and Mr. Child, an accountant of that town, by which Mr. Hawke was induced to take shares in the company and lost £4,000. The case was tried last term, when the plaintiff was nonsuited. The Court refused the application for a new trial.

RAILWAY TRAVELLERS ROBBED.

At the Derby Police Court, on Friday, Ann Parker, of Church-street, Birmingham, was charged with stealing a carpet-bag, containing a large quantity of wearing apparel and other articles, the property of Mrs. Mary Evans, of 14, Bath-street, Sheffield, on the 12th inst. The prosecutrix and her daughter Sarah Taylor were travelling on the Midland Railway from Wednesbury to Sheffield. The train stopping for a short time at Derby Station, they got out and placed their carpet-bag and its contents in the cloak room. On returning to the room the bag was missed, and the prisoner was seen leaving the station with it. She was taken into custody, and gave the name of Wood. She pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

ACTIONS AGAINST NEWSPAPERS.

Two actions against newspapers were tried in the Court of Common Pleas on Friday. Mr. Alsop, solicitor, formerly residing at Bromley, Kent, obtained £50 damages against Mrs. M'Gowan, printer of *Will-o'-the-Wisp*, for a libel in which he was accused of having let loose a savage dog upon a beggar who came to his premises. Mr. Danks, manager of the printing office, was also sued, but in his case a verdict for defendant was returned.—Picard *v.* Broadbridge was an action by a public accountant against the *Morning Post* newspaper, for publishing a circular sent to an officer at Woolwich, stating that the plaintiff continued to arrange privately the pecuniary affairs of gentlemen who are unable to settle in full. The article was headed "Money lenders," and the plaintiff denied that he was or had ever been a money lender. Verdict for defendant.

HOMICIDE AT CLENT.

At Stourbridge Police Court, on Friday, John Pearson, nailer, was charged with the manslaughter of John Brettle, at Clent. On the previous Tuesday night, the deceased was on the Clent Hills with his sweetheart, Jane Gordon, when they met with the prisoner, in the evening. Deceased said to prisoner that there were a great many rooks about the hills, and prisoner replied that there were a great many sparrows. This had an allusion to a previous quarrel, and prisoner then struck deceased two blows behind the left ear, which rendered him insensible, and caused death in a few minutes. Dr. Hobbs deposed that a post-mortem examination of the body disclosed that death had resulted from an effusion of blood on the brain, caused by blows on the jugular vein. The prisoner, who was not defended before the magistrate, was committed for trial, on a charge of manslaughter, at the next Worcester Assizes.

OUTRAGE ON A WOMAN.

On Friday, Thomas William Pitt was charged at the Wellington (Salop) Police Court, with an outrage on a woman named Fitzgerald. A boy named Downes deposed that whilst playing in the road on the day of the occurrence he saw the prisoner shoot a woman. He (prisoner) was on one side of the road, and she was on the other. She fell down, and he immediately went and gave an alarm. Two women, named Hayward and Sockett, deposed to discovering the poor woman, in an exhausted state, lying upon the ditch bank, and bleeding from the wound, around which she had tied her apron.—Police-constable Timm said that when he apprehended the prisoner he struggled violently, and attempted to fire a pistol at him. He found three pistols upon him, one of which appeared to have been recently discharged.—Dr. Snook deposed that he had attended Fitzgerald. She had been shot in the thigh. The ball had entered the upper inner side of the buttock, and had penetrated about six inches inwards. It had not yet been removed.—The prisoner was committed, on the charge of attempted murder, to the next assizes for the county. The injured woman died about two hours after the close of the Magisterial examination, having been gradually sinking since she was shot.

THE WARWICKSHIRE SCANDAL.

On Saturday, in the Court of Probate and Divorce, before Lord Penzance, Dr. Deane said: Your Lordship on Thursday last mentioned the case of "Mordaunt *v.* Mordaunt," and made inquiry about it, but having no instructions whatever in the case, I was quite unable to answer. My friends yesterday saw the solicitor for the respondent, and I may now state that the reason for issuing summonses was that by some oversight the respondent's case had not been lodged. In these circumstances, the first application I have to make to your Lordship this morning is that you will allow this case to be lodged, so as simply to raise the issue. We should have been quite prepared to have had the case taken on next Wednesday, the day for which it is fixed, but I am told this morning it will be a matter of great advantage to those who advise Lady Mordaunt, and also a matter of great personal convenience, if your Lordship can postpone this case to some other day later than Wednesday. Lord Penzance: We cannot postpone it without consent. No reason is given for this. Dr. Deane: I am not able to give any reason Last night I thought the case would have been taken on Wednesday. Lord Penzance: You are in the position of making an application without giving any reason for it. Dr. Deane: Well, my lord, it is my duty to make the application. Lord Penzance: And it is my duty to reject it.

Pit Accident at Bilston.—On Tuesday evening, in a coal pit in the colliery at Rough Hills, of Mr. James Cadman, about two tons of the rock roof fell, and killed John Miles, a collier, of Wolverhampton. The roof was supported by three pieces of timber, but the rock slipped in a slanting direction.

A Circus on Fire.—On Monday night the canvas covering inside the roof of Bell's Circus, in Darlington-street, Wolverhampton, was ignited by the firing of a pistol during the performance. The occupants of the gallery rushed towards the door, and in their haste to get out knocked down several persons, who would have been trampled to death but for the exertions of Inspector Cordon and one of his men. When the affrighted people had passed the door some of them took hold of the handrail upon the landing at the top of the steps. Under the pressure of the crowd the rail gave way and several persons fell to the ground. Amongst them was Henry Forrester, of Green-lane, who sustained a broken collar bone, but he alone was seriously hurt. The fire was extinguished in a few minutes without the aid of water.

NOTES ON THE JOURNALS.

The postal telegraph system is working much better than it did at first. There has been a steady increase in the number of messages sent. In the week ending March 26 there were 160,775 messages despatched; in the week ending April 2, 165,221; April 9, 169,562; April 16, 157,807. The decrease on April 16 arose from Good Friday falling in that week.

The notes of the nightingale, "most musical, most melancholy," were supposed to have been heard as early as the 20th of March, in the neighbourhood of Bettws-y-Coed. We say "supposed," because it is not certain whether the bird-music was that of the nightingale or the song-thrush. The latter has such an extraordinary resemblance to the nightingale before its note is fully developed, that it is often difficult to say which is which. Whether or no "sweet Philomel" was heard at Bettws, it is on record that she has been delighting the Londoners with her charming music.

They have had "Frou-Frou" in court; and, by all accounts, it is a very queer kind of piece. How the Lord Chamberlain came to license it passes comprehension. Yet, after permitting the production of "Formosa," Lord Sydney was almost compelled, by the force of circumstances, to sanction the performance of "Frou-Frou." The piece is being played at two Theatres; its morality is deplorably low; *and the play is very popular*. Before the winter we shall see "Frou-Frou" represented on the stage of every considerable provincial town. Its title is a puzzling one until you know that "Frou-Frou" means the rustling of a lady's dress.

A contemporary finds fault with the Birmingham ladies for wearing long dresses in the streets, and sighs for the time when short dresses shall be generally worn, as much for the sake of appearances as for economy. We readily agree with the writer that long dresses are oftener nuisances than anything else; but when it comes to the question of expense, may we be pardoned for hinting, on unimpeachable authority, that it requires more material to make a short dress than a long one? *Ergo*, ladies who wear long dresses are the most economical, and, besides, do "the State some service" by clearing the pavements of orange-peel!

There is much talk of nunneries, and monasteries, and the like just now. In the face of it all, it is interesting to be told the numbers of convents and nuns in England. The *Weekly Register*—a Roman Catholic organ—appositely supplies us with the information. Mr. Newdegate put down the number of nuns in Great Britain at 6,000. The *Register* contradicts the hon. gentleman. It says there are 216 convents in England, and 17 in Scotland; of professed nuns and lay sisters there are altogether only a few more than 2,500. Only 20 of the 216 English convents belong to cloistered orders, and only one of the 17 in Scotland. When Mr. Newdegate's motion for the inspection of convents is carried, we shall know more about the religious houses concerning which there is at present so much mystery. An inspection of English parsonages is humourously proposed by a country clergyman.

In Portland convict hulks is incarcerated a rather celebrated prisoner. He was sent to Portland several years ago for forgery. The case was a remarkable one, and the name of William Roupell has not yet faded out of public memory. Roupell, it will be easily remembered, was a man of reputed great wealth, and lived in splendid style at Brixton. He was commandant of a Rifle Volunteer Corps, in which his son also held a commission; and on Saturday afternoons it was quite a sight to see Roupell, a fine, handsome man, riding at the head of the regiment, and all Lambeth and Kennington turning out to see the show. But Roupell brought himself within the meshes of the law; whether justly or unjustly, he was sentenced to penal servitude for life; and there he is now at Portland, clad in the grey convict dress, living like any other convict, and taking his share of the prison work. Roupell's duty seems to be that of hospital nurse at Portland, and he has behaved so well that the officials are unanimous in expressing their desire for his release. The governor, at an inquest recently held, took leave to inform the coroner that if ever a man had reformed, Roupell had. Unless, however, a special reprieve should be granted, the unfortunate convict will have to serve twenty-one years at Portland.

Daniel Maclise, R.A., died very suddenly on Monday from heart disease, which takes off so many of our foremost men. The record of his life, when it shall be written, will be interesting. Maclise, when quite a lad, displayed an extraordinary aptitude for drawing, and was very anxious to be an artist. Circumstances preventing this, he was sent into a banker's counting-house, at his native city of Cork. His thirst for artistic honours was, however, to be gratified. When he was only sixteen, he entered the Royal Academy as a student, and was successful in all his competitions. Then he went to Paris, and drew for the publishers. To *Fraser's Magazine* he contributed several etchings. Maclise began to exhibit at the Academy in the year 1833, sending three pictures—"Mokanna unveiling her Features to Zelica," "All Hallow Eve," and "A Love Adventure of Francis I. with Diana of Poictiers." He was elected an Associate of the Academy two years later; and he was only thirty when he was made an R.A. He painted more pictures than we have space at present to enumerate. His exhibition picture last year, as all visitors to the Academy will remember, was "Cophetua and the Beggar Maid," from Tennyson; and he was to have exhibited this year. Everybody has seen his historical frescoes in the House of Lords. Mr. Maclise will be nowhere more missed than in London society, of which he was a most popular member; whilst Art loses in him one of its foremost sons.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

A new planet was discovered last week by M. Borrelli, of the Observatory, at Marseilles, a sort of branch of the Imperial Observatory at Paris, officially named the *succursalle*, and therefore, some will opine, misnamed. The new celestial acquaintance is the 110th member of the family of planetoids circulating between Mars and Jupiter. It is extremely small, only equally in brightness a star of the 12th magnitude, and consequently invisible to all but the possessors of the finest telescopes. It is necessary to state this condition, for we can recollect people, after reading the bare announcement of a new planet's discovery, going out into the night and pitching upon the most conspicuous star in the sky as the novel object, whereas the said object may have been fifty times fainter than the smallest star the naked eye can discover.

As an item of astronomical intelligence of no great importance to outsiders we may record that there was an occultation of Saturn by the moon on the morning of the 20th instant. Notices of the phenomenon were communicated to the *Times*, for what reason is hard to guess, for there was nothing in it to interest the public. But a strange idea has gained ground that every common-place celestial event is matter for a letter to the leading journal. The editor cannot be expected to discriminate between what is of importance or uncommon and what is of frequent if not every-day occurrence, so the consequence is the occasional appearance of something puerile. The worst evil is the risk of an important or authoritative scientific communication being passed over to make way for a second-hand one; and the evil is not an imaginary one.

Preparations are being made in Sweden for a grand Polar expedition, to be carried out during 1871 and 1872, under the direction of Professor Nordenskjold, who conducted the more modest expedition from the same country two years ago. Parry's attempt to reach the pole by pushing to the north of Spitzbergen will be renewed, and it is proposed to winter on one of the Seven Islands. The Professor intends this summer to proceed to Greenland to buy dogs for the sledges, and to gain some desired information. British honours in the matter of Arctic research have been for some time in jeopardy.

The caves beneath the cliffs in the neighbourhood of Settle, in Yorkshire, are to be thoroughly explored. A preliminary examination has been made, and a number of interesting objects have been discovered. In one cave, which was found on the Queen's Coronation day, and is therefore called Victoria cave, a remarkable series of ornaments was long ago exhumed, together with implements of bronze, iron, and bone, along with pottery and animal remains. These were doubtless of Roman date. Lately some lower diggings have brought to light weapons of far greater antiquity than the Roman period. A remarkable bone harpoon, of a construction hitherto unfound in Britain, and some flint flakes, were taken from a stratum which it is computed must have been superficial 4,000 years ago.

M. Tosselli, already known by his endeavours to facilitate artificial ice manufacture, will shortly submit to the judgment of the Paris Academy of Sciences some considerable improvements in his freezing machines. The construction has been simplified; the refrigerating chemicals have been rendered more efficacious, and their action made certain to produce in the hottest countries not only cool drinks, but ice in considerable quantities and at low price. Truly a domestic freezer would be a blessing. Such things are advertised, but they are costly to purchase, and, from the high price of the heat-destroying mixtures, expensive to keep in use.

From time to time the public has received scraps of information concerning the wire tramways invented and patented by Mr. Hodgson in the spring of last year. The means of locomotion it provides seem all that can be desired for goods and minerals, and some believers in its efficacy have suggested its trial for passengers. This may come. A very successful exposition of its adaptability for baggage transport has been made on Brighton Downs, where five miles of the tram-wire have been erected, up hill and down dale, round all kinds of curves and corners, at the request of some gentlemen who are negociating for a 60 mile line of it to be set up in Ceylon. The system may be described as consisting of an endless wire rope running over a series of pulleys carried by strong posts. The rope passes at one end of the line round a drum, driven by steam or water, or any other motive power at command. The articles to be transported are put into boxes or buckets, which are hung on the line by a peculiar hook or saddle, which allows of easy passage over the supporting posts and pulleys. From four to eight miles an hour is the speed obtained; and the Brighton line is capable of delivering 240 tons per day of ten hours, that is 120 tons either way, for while one half line is going forward the other half is running backward. A 16-horse-power engine does the work. The suggestion of a wire railway is not new: we believe several idealists claim priority from Mr. Hodgson. We recollect an American proposal for propelling passenger balloons along an elevated wire. But before the present Wire Tramway Company set to work no speculator thereupon seems to have put his ideas to the test of practice. Who perfects invents, not who proposes.

An American physiologist reports on a series of some 44,000 weighings of prisoners in the convict establishment at Wakefield, and undertakes to determine the alterations of weight at different seasons of the year. The average result was a showing that there was a progressive loss of weight in January, February, and March, a gain in April, May, June, July, and August, and a loss again during the remaining four months of the year. The summer made the men heavy and the winter light. The difference admits of physiological explanation by the variation in the amounts of carbonic acid exhaled in winter and in summer.

In our eagerness to clutch at scientific gains, let us not be heedless of scientific losses—those which we suffer by the hand of death. On the 5th of this month died Professor Magnus, the famous physicist and chemist of Berlin.

Later came news of the sudden death from apoplexy of M. Nièpce de Saint Victor, so well known for his early labours in photography. Then America has lost one of her inventive geniuses, Seth Boyden, the announcement of whose death treads curiously on the heels of that immediately preceding, for he is said to have been the first man in the States who took a photograph (daguerretype). He invented and made a brad-machine in 1815, and patent leather in 1819. In 1826 he produced malleable iron castings, and at about the same time devised the first locomotive with outside connecting rods. He helped Morse with his telegraphic inventions, laid the foundation for successful zinc mining in his country, and imitated the good qualities of Russian sheet iron, but not at a cost that admitted competition with the foreign article. His last efforts were spent upon a hat-making machine, which he brought to practical perfection. Like most universal genii, he died a poor man.

PARLIAMENTARY NEWS.

The House of Commons re-assembled on Monday after the Easter recess.—Mr. Otway, in reply to a question from Mr. Monck, confirmed the intelligence of the murder by Greek brigands of their English captives. Full details of the event were not expected at the Foreign Office till Friday week, but copies of all the communications which had passed upon the subject between the Government and the authorities in Greece would be immediately distributed among the members.—The War Office Bill was read a third time and passed; the Poor Relief (Metropolis) Bill was read a second time.—The Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Bridgwater and Beverley Disfranchisement Bill. With respect to the former town the right hon. gentleman stated that there had not been a pure election in the borough within the memory of man; and with respect to Beverley he showed by extracts from the report of the commissioners that bribery had been carried on for many years in a systematic manner and on a most extensive scale. The second reading passed without a division.—The Attorney-General then moved the second reading of a bill for disfranchising certain of the electors of the borough of Norwich, which, after a brief discussion, was also agreed to.—The Colonies formed the topic of a long debate on Tuesday night. Mr. Torrens moved for a select committee to inquire into the political relations and modes of official intercommunication between the self-governing colonies and the mother country, and to report whether any modifications were desirable, with a view to the maintenance of a common nationality "cemented by a cordial good understanding." Mr. Eastwick seconded the resolution. Several members having spoken, and Viscount Bury having moved the previous question, Mr. Gladstone said the feeling of uneasiness referred to was not a phenomenon which had arisen under the hands of the present Government, as appeared to be the idea entertained by some speakers. The uneasiness had existed for the last thirty years, ever since the British Government had adopted the policy of responsible government for the colonies; and when in the present time that policy had been carried to its natural issue, and the Imperial Government had reduced the military force provided for the colonies, the feeling of uneasiness had increased. The secret and soul of modern colonial policy was, not to accelerate the separation of the colonies from the mother country, but to bring the relations of England and her colonies into such a state that when the day of separation did come it might be met in a peaceable and friendly spirit. With regard to the motion brought forward by Mr. Torrens, the first duty of the Government before assenting to it would be to ascertain the views of the colonists themselves. It had not been shown that the colonists were desirous of instituting the inquiry for which the motion sought to obtain the sanction of the House, and he and his colleagues would accordingly go into the lobby with the noble lord who had moved the previous question. Mr. Torrens having replied, the House divided, and the motion was lost by 110 votes against 67.—Mr. Muntz introduced a bill to relieve charities and elementary schools from the payment of local rates.—On Wednesday the Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister Bill passed through committee.

At Old Trafford on Thursday night a Mr. Whalley was knocked down by two men and robbed of £700 in gold and bank-notes.

At St. George's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Southwark, and at most of the metropolitan Roman Catholic churches, on Sunday, the congregations were invited to pray, during the week, that the threatened act of injustice and insult levelled at the Roman Catholic religious communities, through the proposed inspection of conventual and monastic institutions, may be averted.

THE TRAGEDY IN GREECE.—General Soutzo, the Minister of War, has resigned, and M. Valority, the Minister of the Interior, has assumed the Ministry of War, *ad interim*. The funeral of Count de Boyl, Secretary to the Italian Legation, took place with all honours on Monday. The King and the Italian Minister headed the funeral procession, accompanied by the members of the Diplomatic Body and the Ministry. Lord and Lady Muncaster are on their way home.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

We trust that one of the first acts of the proposed committee for enquiring into the present state of racing will be to pass a resolution for the adoption of strenuous measures to secure something like decent sport at Newmarket. Fortunately the five days of the Craven week were wonderfully fine, so the outing must have done the few visitors good, but really, as regards racing, there was nothing worth looking at, and the authorities ought to have found out this time that a succession of £50 and £100 Plates, interspersed with walks over, cannot make up a successful meeting. The defeat of Green Riband by Newsman on Tuesday would have given Camel a lift in the Derby quotations, if he had not been under suspicion from a stoppage in his work, for the slashing son of Thormanby gave Mr. Payne's colt 4llbs. and an easy beating in the Doncaster Nursery last year. The quality of the competitors in the Newmarket Biennial was much below the average, the dead-heaters, Alexander and Champion (late the Fistiana colt), comparing very unfavourably with such animals as Vauban, the Earl, and Pero Gomez, the winners of this stake in 1867-8-9 respectively. Astolfo ran wretchedly, and has not grown a bit since last season; and though Alexander is raw, and with more time capable of great improvement, there is no Derby form about the lot.

The easy victory of Demidoff over Kennington created great surprise, and if the latter was fit and well Demidoff must possess just an outside chance for the Derby, for which, however, his name has never been mentioned. Suffolk gave the Amaranth colt 4lbs. and a head beating over the T. Y. C., and the poor backers received "the most unkindest cut of all" in the defeat of Sabinus in the Newmarket Handicap. Of course since his downfall public opinion with regard to the gelding has altered considerably; he is "a bad horse," "an over-rated horse," he "never beat anything," &c. Nothing but a thorough racehorse, however, could have cantered away with the City and Suburban and Metropolitan in the style in which he did, and any one who cares to refer to the annals of the Newmarket Handicap will find that Leases is the only three-year-old who has ever successfully carried more than 6st. over this terribly severe course. We fancy, therefore, that Sabinus will show to far greater advantage in the Chester Cup; though at the same time, he may not be quite the wonder he was at first believed to be. On Thursday Minaret walked over for the venerable Claret Stakes, as though Pero Gomez and Wild Oats, the heroes of that sensational Criterion finish in '68, were on the spot, they were neither fit enough to oppose her. The great fine-looking Midsummer galloped the heart out of Boulogne over the D.J., and then Nobleman, thanks to the pace at which Fordham drove him along, upset the long odds on Perambulator so decisively, that, judging by this form, he must have won the Biennial on Tuesday had he been allowed to start. Friday's programme was really beneath contempt.

The meeting of the Jockey Club on Wednesday excited great interest, and everyone at Newmarket seems much gratified at the decisive check Sir Joseph Hawley received in his efforts to improve racing off the face of the earth. That reform in many branches of the sport is much needed cannot be doubted; but, in the first place, Sir Joseph Hawley is not the man to inaugurate it, and in the second, he betrayed utter ignorance of the right way to set about it. Instead of working with the Jockey Club, he constituted himself a sort of mentor to that body, and after bringing very grave charges against the members, and treating them in an extremely arrogant manner, seemed to expect their support. Can it be wondered, then, that in the language of one of the members, "If I am to race under Sir Joseph Hawley's directions, my stud will soon come to the hammer," was the feeling of all, and that they expressed their sentiments pretty decisively, by refusing even to grant the baronet the committee he asked for, and then bringing forward and passing the very same resolutions themselves? They could not more strongly have marked their sense that, so far, what Sir Joseph proposed was reasonable, but that the manner in which it was brought forward was discourteous and uncalled for. However, much good may come out of all this unpleasantness, and the report of the committee will be awaited with extreme interest.

The presence of the Prince and Princess of Teck did wonders for the Richmond Athletic Sports, and about 3,000 people assembled in the old Deer Park. In the Hurdle race J. Cockerell, who is rather new at this line of business, defeated W. Lindsay, the Civil Service champion, and E. E. Toller. H. C. Riches, who won the Four Miles at the late Champion Meeting, was at scratch in the Three Miles Handicap; but he was never in it with some of the limit men. The 100 Yards produced something of a surprise. J. G. Wilson, the Oxford crack, won it in his usual brilliant style, waiting with his men till close home, and then shooting away from them; and W. Collett, who always runs well over this course, completely turned the tables on A. J. Baker, defeating him pretty cleverly. The sports will be concluded to-day (Saturday), and the Prince and Princess will again attend.

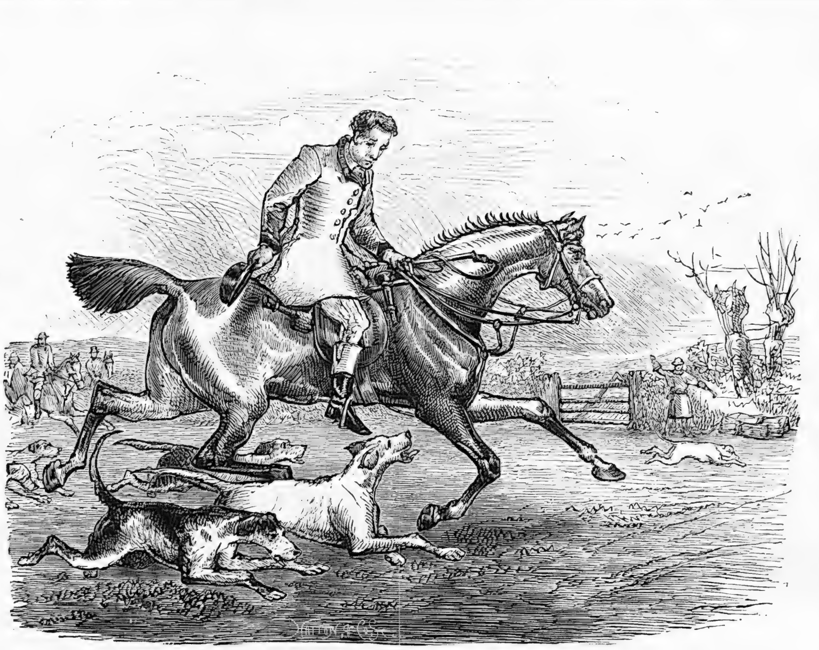
A SKETCH IN THE FRENCH SALON.

We are on the eve of the opening of the French Salon and our own Royal Academy. A Parisian artist sends us a sketch, which we give on this page, of the reception and hanging of the pictures for the French Salon. The scene is apparently one of far greater confusion than that to which we are accustomed in London. The hanging-committee at home manage to do their work much more quietly and undemonstratively than their French *confréres*, and with a much smaller audience than that which assembles in the French Salon. We hope shortly to give a sketch of our own Royal Academy, and, in the autumn, one of the Birmingham Exhibition.

THE TICHBORNE CASE.—The arguments in the case of Sir R. Tichborne were heard by the Chief Judge in Bankruptcy on Monday. It will be remembered that two creditors had filed a petition against Sir Roger, but this step was objected to, on the ground that it would materially interfere with the proceedings now pending for the recovery of the Tichborne property, and an injunction was asked for against the adjudication. The Chief Judge however declined to grant the request.

ANOTHER CLERICAL SCANDAL.—The rector of Hardwick was on Friday charged before the Mayor, Mr. C. Balls, and several other borough magistrates, with being the father of the illegitimate child of Hannah Abrahams, formerly domestic servant at the rectory. Defendant did not appear, being, as was alleged, out of the country. The hearing of the case occupied three hours, and the magistrates eventually made an order of half-a-crown a week. Notice of appeal was given. The living of Hardwick is in the gift of the Bishop of Ely, and is worth £300 a year with residence and 34 acres of glebe.

THE NEXT DIVIDEND OF THE MIDLAND.—*Herapath* notes that the increase in the Midland Company's traffic last week amounted to £10,788, and the increase for the 16 weeks to £101,642, so "we may be sure, then, of a substantial increase in the half-year's dividend."



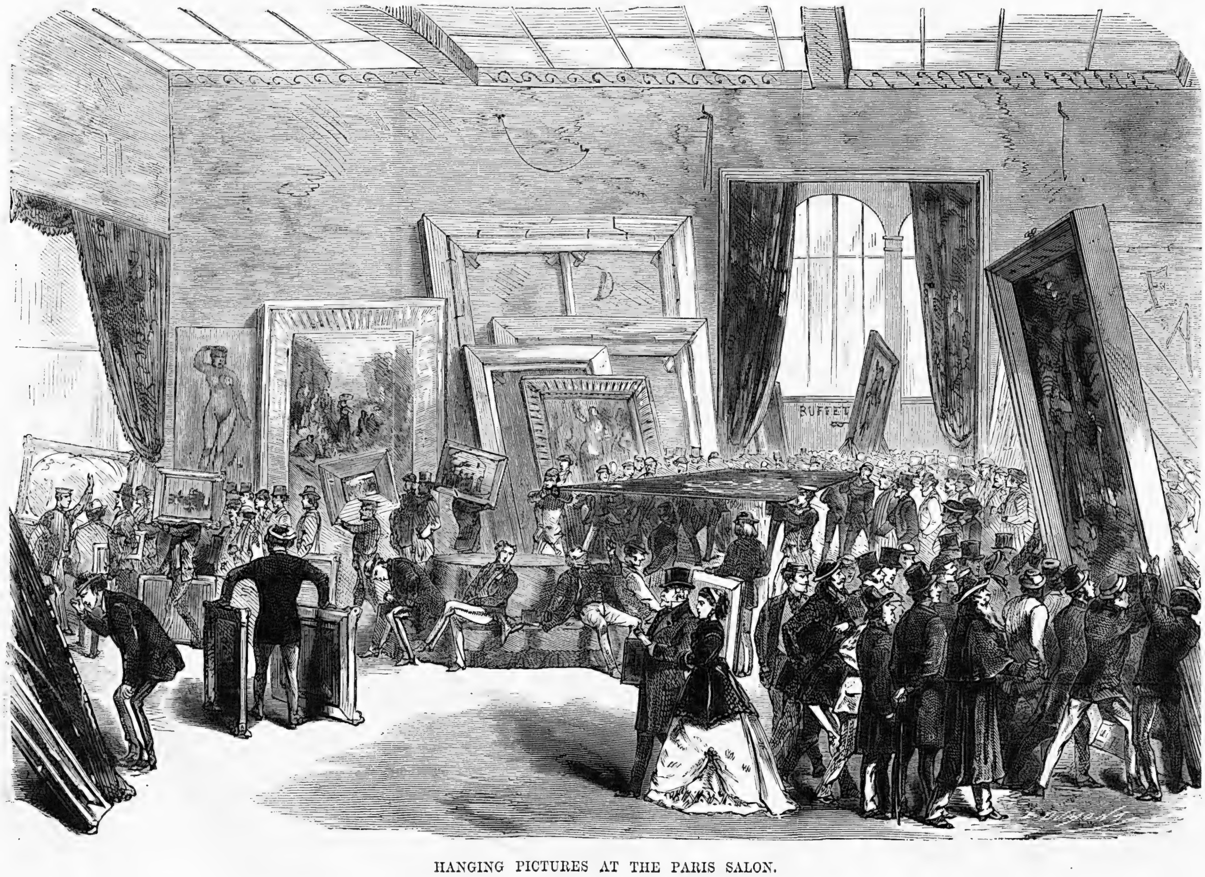
A HUNTING SCENE IN WORCESTERSHIRE.—*BY W. H. TEMPLE.*

HUNTING IN WORCESTERSHIRE.

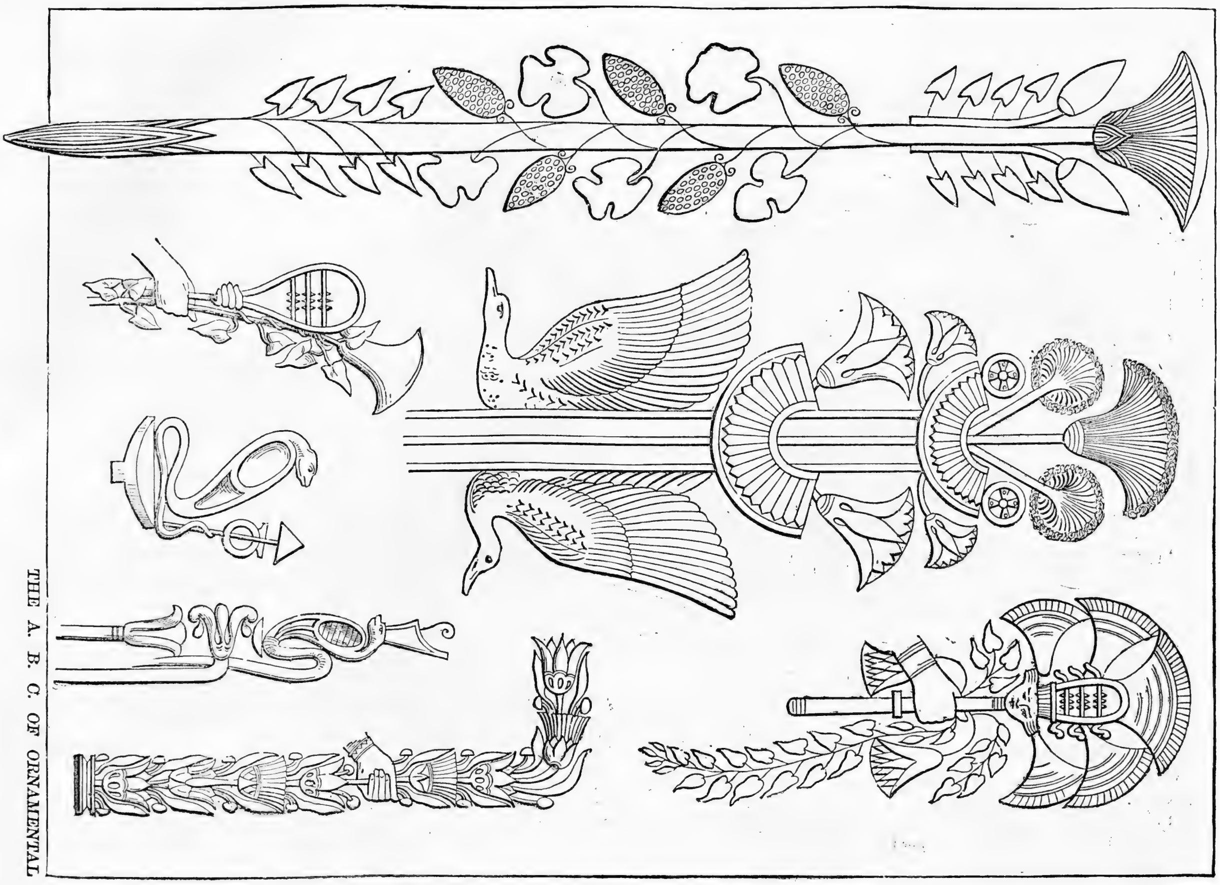
In fulfilment of our promise we give this week a second illustration of hunting in Worcestershire, from the pencil of Mr. W. H. Temple. The principal figure in the picture is the well-known huntsman, Maw, who hunted the Worcestershire Hounds with great tact and judgment. Next week we shall conclude our series of three hunting sketches by a picture of the meet of the North Cotswold Hounds at Dumbleton, near Evesham, by the same artist.

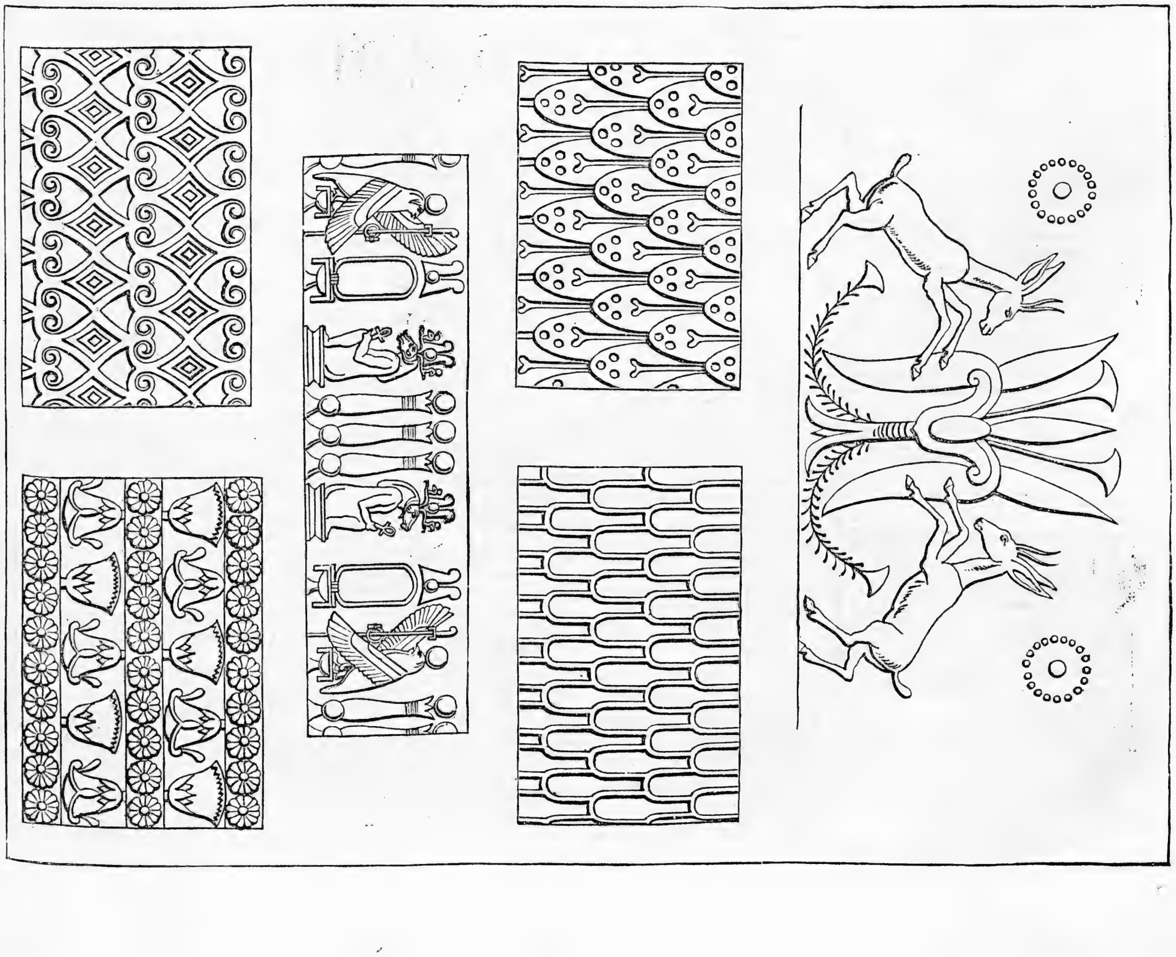
BAD COPY A REMEDY FOR A COUGH.—The following ludicrous anecdote is recorded in the *Annalen der Typographie*:—"The celebrated actor and manager, Macready, wrote a very illegible hand, and his free admissions to the theatre were extraordinary productions. He had one day given one to a friend for a third party. On receiving it the latter remarked, 'If I had not known what it was, I should have taken it for a doctor's recipe.' 'You are right,' resumed the friend, 'it looks exactly like it; let us try our luck with it.' 'Be it so; let us get the draught made up.' They go to the nearest apothecary's and hand the paper to an assistant. He throws a quick glance over it, and fills the phial from various bottles; another glance—another ingredient, and the phial is half full. Then a dubious pause ensues—the assistant is obviously puzzled, and scratches his head. Finally he disappears through a partition, behind which the proprietor is seated. The latter, a profoundly learned-looking man, appears at the counter. A short low dialogue takes place, in consequence of which the chief peruses the document. He shakes his head, evidently at the ignorance of the assistant, fetches another bottle down, and, finally, fills the phial with an apocryphal liquid, corks and labels it in proper form. Thereupon, he hands it to the expectant gentleman with a friendly smile: 'Here is the cough mixture, which is apparently very good. Fifteenpence, if you please.' "

A PRIVILEGED MURDERER.—"Where you shall be hanged by the neck until you are dead." "Pray don't say so, my lord," exclaimed the prisoner, "I'm so ticklish about the neck that it would drive me mad." But in those days Mr. Bruce was not Home Secretary, and the pathetic appeal of the murderer was unheeded. Rutterford is lucky. He has been convicted of murder, and it is not alleged that there are any extenuating circumstances. He happens, however, to have a cicatrice in his neck, and a medical board reports that "it will be necessary to use very considerable and unusual amount of constricting force before the rope can be adjusted in such a manner as to sustain the weight of the prisoner's body." Thereupon (says the *Law Journal)* the convict is reprieved. Had we not better do away with the punishment of death? How can Mr. Bruce sign the death-warrant of any other murderer after the reprieve of Rutterford? The next convict may suffer from a highly sensitive nervous organisation, and the thought of hanging may be terrible torture. If Rutterford has been spared from extra muscular suffering, must not the peculiarly sensitive convict be spared from extra mental and nervous suffering? Perhaps Mr. Bruce's indisposition to allow the extreme penalty of the law to be inflicted is in accord with the views of the public. Then do away with the death punishment; anything is better than the present uncertainty.



HANGING PICTURES AT THE PARIS SALON.





THE A. B. C. OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.—(*See page 574.*)—TO BE CONTINUED.

WHAT IS CRUELTY?

The Liverpool magistrates had before them on Monday a case of great importance to the sporting world as well as to the public. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals summoned Mr. George Holman, who rode The Doctor in the Grand National Steeplechase at Liverpool, for having used undue severity to his horse during the race. Mr. Harris, of the Midland Circuit, prosecuted, and Mr. Fallon, of the Oxford Circuit, and Recorder of Tewkesbury, defended. Mr. Harris shortly opened the case, after which Mr. Henry Feist, Editor of the *Sporting Life*, and Correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, under the title of "Hotspur," was examined. — His letter, despatched to the *Daily Telegraph*, describing the race, was handed to him, which he identified. The following are the words occurring in it upon which the prosecution relied :— "Holman's horsemanship was admirable, and the severity of the finish was demonstrated by the fact that The Doctor's sides were fairly ripped up with the spurs." Witness said that that was a fair description, with certain allowances understood by sporting men.

Mr. Fallon cross-examined the witness.—The *Telegraph* had the reputation with the public of being a sensational paper. He and other writers endeavoured to infuse as much spirit as possible into their contributions, as the public liked it, and this was particularly the case with regard to sporting matters. In saying that The Doctor's sides were fairly ripped up with the spur, that was merely a sporting phrase. It did not mean that the horse's bowels were protruding. The phrase was a figurative one, and would be so understood by sporting men. He did not use the word severity in its ordinary acceptation, but as indicating merely the severity of the finish. Such figurative expressions were common amongst sporting men, as when it was said that the horse "had been to the devil," which no one would understand in its literal sense. He had used, he believed, somewhat similar expressions in describing the finish of other races. He did not think that Holman touched his horse till after the last hurdle. Holman then became hard upon him. He (witness) was there unwillingly, as his professional duties were very heavy.

Henry Jordan, 17, Sykes-street, Liverpool, cabman, said that The Doctor was more severely punished than any horse he had ever seen on a racecourse.

Mr. Martin, police-superintendent, deposed to having seen a horse, which he afterwards learned to have been The Doctor, whipped and spurred at the finish of the race. He saw a large quantity of blood upon the horse's side.

Mr. John Johnson, surgeon, of Liverpool, said that any horse under the state of excitement that The Doctor then suffered would have bled very freely if pricked.

Several other witnesses gave corroborative evidence.

Mr. Fallon, on behalf of the defendant, repudiated the idea of any undue cruelty, and called several witnesses, who stated that they had never seen Holman use a whip, nor did The Doctor, after the race, exhibit any appearance of the whip being used. A few hours after the race they could not see any spur marks, nor did the horse show any signs of "clam."

The Magistrates then retired for a short time, and on their return the chairman announced that they had decided to dismiss the case, a decision which was received with cheers by a number of sporting men in Court.

On the application of Mr. Fallon their Worships ordered that the sum of £20 should be paid by the Society towards the expenses incurred by the defendant.

A memorial from the Dublin Chamber of Commerce is being signed, asking for a third member for the City.

An old man, aged 77, who had been at a wedding and taken "a drop too much," fell down at the corner of Greycoat-street, Westminster, and so fractured his skull that he died.

Mdlle. Schneider at Birmingham.—Mr. Simpson, the enterprising manager of the Birmingham Theatre Royal, has engaged Mdlle. Schneider and M. Raphael Felix's company for six nights, beginning on May 23rd.

The newest style for dressing the hair is called "The Cleopatra." The hair is brushed high off the forehead and braided low in the neck, surmounted by a large imitation snake which is coiled around the head.

WORCESTER PROPRIETARY COLLEGE FOR BLIND SONS OF GENTLEMEN.

A PUBLIC MEETING
Will be held in the
MASONIC HALL, NEW STREET, BIRMINGHAM,
ON MONDAY NEXT, May 2, at Three p.m.,
In the interests of the above Institution.

The Chair will be taken by
LORD LYTTELTON.

The Mayor of Birmingham; the Rev. Sir C. R. Leighton, Bart., M.A.; the Hon. and Rev. Grantham M. Yorke, M.A.; Archdeacon Hone; the Rev. C. T. Wilkinson, M.A.; the Rev. David Melville; Charles Ratcliff, Esq.; Edward Gem, Esq., and other Gentlemen have promised to be present at the proceedings.

The Principal,
THE REV. R. H, BLAIR, M.A. F.R.A.S., &c.,
Will attend to explain to how great an extent the Education of the Blind is carried out, and to Exhibit the Apparatus used in the College. [764

PIANOFORTE DRAWING-ROOM GEMS.

LATEST Compositions of M. Willie Pape— "*Irish Diamonds*," Series, (No. 1.)—"Has sorrow thy young days shaded"—and "Young May Moon." No. 2.—"Believe me if all" and "Garry Owen." No. 3.—"The Minstrel Boy" and "St. Patrick's Day."
Highland Gems, Series, No. 1.—"Ye Banks and Braes," and "Bonnie Dundee."
Monogram Caprice, beautifully illustrated by the Queen's Heraldic Designer, specially for the Boudoir.
Musical Box, as played by the Composer before the Royal Family, and at his Grand Concerts.

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THEATRE ROYAL, BIRMINGHAM.
Under the Management of Mr. M. H. Simpson.

GREAT ATTRACTION.

This, SATURDAY, and following Evenings,
THE COLLEEN BAWN,
AND
THE OCTOROON.

Mr. Simpson has the pleasure of announcing that he has entered into an engagement with M. Raphael Felix, Director of the Théâtre de la Porte St. Martin, Paris, for
SIX GRAND PERFORMANCES
of French Opera Bouffe, by the renowned Composer,
OFFENBACH,
commencing MONDAY, May 23rd, and concluding SATURDAY, May 28th, 1870.
The Company will include the world-renowned
MDLLE. SCHNEIDER.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRQUE,
CURZON HALL, BIRMINGHAM.
Open every Evening at 7, Commencing at 7.30.

TO-NIGHT (SATURDAY), APRIL 30.
Popular Equestrian Scenes. JAMES DOUGHTY and his COMIC DOGS.
The LAST NIGHT of the Great Contest by the INTERNATIONAL WRESTLERS, FRANCE *v.* ENGLAND.

MONDAY, May 2, first time this Season of the Fairy Spectacle of
CINDERELLA AND THE LITTLE GLASS SLIPPER,
Performed by a Company of Juveniles.
All Liverpool went to see CINDERELLA,
All Dublin went to see CINDERELLA,
All Glasgow went to see CINDERELLA,
All Bristol went to see CINDERELLA,
and pronounced it to be the most successful spectacle ever produced at Hengler's Cirque.
See Opinions of the Press.
GRAND MASONIC GATHERING, under the Patronage of the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, P.G.M., and Col. Machen, D.P.G.M., on WEDNESDAY, May 4.
DAY PERFORMANCE on THURSDAY NEXT.
Fashionable Night, FRIDAY, May 6, under the Patronage of P. H. Muntz, Esq., M.P., and George Dixon, Esq., M.P. FAREWELL BENEFIT of JENNY LOUISE HENGLER.
Prices as Usual.
Proprietor and Director, Mr. HENGLER.

LOWER GROUNDS, ASTON.

THESE BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS ARE OPEN DAILY.

SPRING DISPLAY OF FLOWERS, BOATING, &c.
SYNYER AND GILMER'S MILITARY BAND Will Perform in the New Orchestra every MONDAY and SATURDAY, from Three till Eight.
BRASS BAND, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, from Three till Eight.
Admission, Twopence each.
The ASSEMBLY ROOM will be OPEN for DANCING on MONDAY and SATURDAY, from 7 till 10.30. Admission, Sixpence each.

ON EVERY FRIDAY,
A GRAND MUSICAL PROMENADE,
FROM FIVE TILL EIGHT,
When SYNYER and GILMER'S BAND will perform a Select Programme of Music. Admission, Sixpence each; Juveniles, Threepence.
SEASON TICKETS are now ready. Family Tickets, 21s.; Single, 10s. 6d. These Tickets will admit to the Promenade.
746] H. G. QUILTER, Proprietor.

ROYAL PROMENADE GARDENS,
SUTTON COLDFIELD.
THESE GROUNDS ARE NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Pic-Nic, Dinner, and Tea Parties provided.
Admission 2d.
747] J. COLE, Proprietor.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTISTS,
BIRMINGHAM.
THE SPRING EXHIBITION
Of this Society
IS NOW OPEN DAILY from 10 till 6 o'clock.
Admission, One Shilling.
And on each Monday and Thursday Evenings, from 7 till 10 o'clock, admission, Sixpence.
Season Tickets, 5s, Catalogues, 6d.
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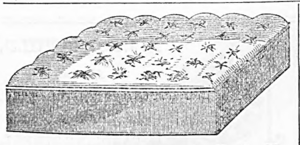

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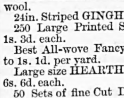

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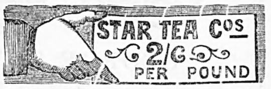

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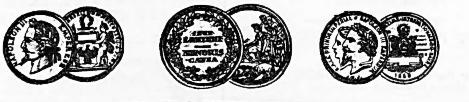

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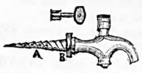

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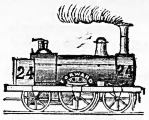

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